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INSIDE

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The death toll from an Indonesian volcano rises to 16. ➤ **PAGE 15**

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Oscar-winning actor Philip Seymour Hoffman is found dead.

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Sitting on a gold mine

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» **CNMI may have gold, silver, oil deposits waiting to be explored**

If international seafloor mining companies' interests in previous years are a gauge, then the CNMI may be sitting on or surrounded by multimillion worth of high-grade hydrothermal deposits rich in copper, zinc and lead with a high gold and silver content as well as large oil and natural gas reserves—without its local government even knowing about it—based on information that House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) recently gathered.

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CHC wants MPLT line of credit extended

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is seeking an extension of another year for its standing \$3 million loan with the Marianas Public Land Trust. The loan's maturity date is next month.

MPLT consultant Bruce MacMillan reported Friday that the corporation, through its acting chief financial officer Cora Ada, informally conveyed this idea in an email last week.

The corporation is due to pay on March 12 the full principal of \$3 million it borrowed from MPLT last year. Interest for this line of credit is reportedly being paid monthly in the amount of over \$17,000. CHCC has been drawing on this line of credit for two years.

Ada is reportedly seeking a "change of terms" in the existing loan agreement. She now wants the corporation to pay MPLT a monthly payment of the principal and interest, instead of paying

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ON POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES

UN adviser: Periodic assessment is good

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Dr. Carlyle Corbin, a visiting international adviser on governance and multi-lateral diplomacy, noted with interest the renewed push to assess the CNMI's political relationship with the United States at a time when other areas in the world with political relationship with bigger countries are doing the same thing.



Corbin

Corbin, who has served as a United Nations expert on governance, and independent expert for the U.N. Development Programme, reiterated yesterday that his "observation" remains the

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SUPERBOWL MONDAY

Only four of the 14 parking spaces reserved for most of the 20-member House of Representatives were occupied either by lawmakers or their staffers' vehicles yesterday morning to noon, around the time the CNMI joined the rest of the nation in watching the Super Bowl. Seattle Seahawks routed Denver Broncos 43-8 in one of the most one-sided contests in Super Bowl history.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



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Local



Inos seeks transparent discussion on military efforts in the Pacific

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has returned from Honolulu where he received mission briefs from key

Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo share a moment with Gen. Herbert Carlisle, commander of the Pacific Air Forces, during their meeting last week at the Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

military officials from various components regarding the nation's strategic rebalancing efforts in the Pacific region.

Inos and Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo accepted the invitation of Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, commander of Joint Region Marianas, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, and U.S. Defense Representative for Guam, CNMI, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

The mission briefs began at the U.S. Pacific Air Forces Headquarters with Gen. Herbert Carlisle, PACAF commander. Carlisle explained the mission of the U.S. Pacific Fleet to protect and defend the maritime interests of the United States in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. As to the issues specific to the CNMI, there was discussion on the proposal for a divert airfield on Saipan or Tinian. Air Force officials maintain that their preferred proposed site of Saipan is only intended to serve as a divert location only and not as a training ground that will be active throughout the year. In fact, the Air Force disclosed that the divert activities are not expected to exceed more than four weeks a year.

In response to this, Inos reiterated the government's position that the Air Force should make use of the two thirds of property on Tinian already leased for military purposes. Inos also expressed disappointment with the lack of a cost-benefit analysis between Saipan and Tinian.

sis between Saipan and Tinian.

"I have asked for and I am still waiting for a complete alternative site study," said Inos. "Instead of looking at the potential for both Saipan and Tinian, there appears to be an effort by the military placing more focus on Saipan alone."

Inos indicated that this is the same issue the Commonwealth has with coming up with a memorandum of agreement regarding historic preservation matters.

"The MOA focuses only on Saipan. I want to see Tinian included so that there's an understanding that these are proposed sites," added Inos. "Without including Tinian in the MOA, it gives off the impression that we've all agreed on Saipan. That's not the case here."

Nonetheless, Inos expressed the government's willingness to work with the U.S. military to address and resolve both sides' differences regarding divert activities and the overall Pacific rebalance.

"Obviously, the CNMI and Guam play a major role in the U.S. strategic shift in Asia and the Pacific," stated Inos. "We want to do our part in ensuring national security, but I also believe it should not be at the expense of our people."

This was the overall theme Inos shared during briefings with the Pacific Command, U.S. Army Reserve Pacific, and Marine Forces Pacific. (Office of the Governor)

Rotary wants to use natural materials for Kagman park

The Rotary Club of Saipan's Rotary Healthy Living Family Park project is progressing smoothly, according to the civic organization's community services director Dennis Yoshimoto during last week's meeting of the local Rotary Club at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"It's a long name but it has a long history. Right now we're at the design phase and we're looking at various concepts. We're leaning toward use of natural materials rather than shipping materials from off island," he said when asked by Rotary Club president Laila Y. Boyer to provide an update on the club's \$60,000 community project.

Yoshimoto said once completed it will be a good place for community members—especially those living in Kagman—to exercise as well as socialize with family and friends.

"I want to encourage fami-

lies to live healthy and exercise outdoors."

The Rotary Club broke ground on the Rotary Healthy Living Family Park project early last November in the presence of Rotary district governor Isako Funaki and other dignitaries from Japan.

Sadly, not even a month after the groundbreaking, the *daok* tree seedling the club planted to sort of commemorate the building of the park was stolen.

Daok trees are abundant on the island and are known for their shading capability—the main reason the club chose to plant the seedling on the site.

The tree specie's wood is also hard and is of excellent quality and is used to make boats, timber, carabao carts, and large canoes. Its leaves can also be soaked in water and used as a remedy for sore eyes and is also good for the skin as a moisturizer. (Mark Rabago)

Flame Tree

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'Releasing Zeng will have negative implications on US foreign policy'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Releasing alleged fugitive and property mogul Wei Zeng on bail would have negative implications for U.S. foreign policy in cases where the U.S. seeks extradition of fugitives from Hong Kong, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Assistant U.S. attorney Jessica F. Cruz, as counsel for the U.S. government, stated that the ability of the U.S. to deliver fugitives pursuant to extradition requests has significant international law implications.

"The international legal system depends wholly upon the respect of its members for the obligations into which they freely enter," Cruz said.

When a foreign country meets the conditions of its extradition treaty, the U.S. is obliged to deliver the fugitive, she said.

Cruz wants Zeng's request for bail be denied.

Cruz also disclosed that the Hong Kong government has informed the United States that Hong Kong attorney Priscilla Lam claims that Zeng retained

her for purposes of the U.S. government's provisional arrest request.

Guam immigration lawyer Nelson Xu, of the Baumann, Kondas and Xu LLC law firm, has joined attorney Bruce Berline as counsel for the 51-year-old Zeng, also known as Zhiqian Liu.

In opposing the bail request on Friday, Cruz said that Zeng is a flight risk because he has a history of fleeing to avoid prosecution, possesses significant financial resources, is adept at concealing his identity, and has no ties to the CNMI.

Cruz said that Hong Kong wants Zeng extradited so that he may face trial on three counts of bribing an agent and for conspiracy to deal with property known or believed to represent proceeds of an indictable offense.

Cruz said the overwhelming weight of authority supports the strong presumption against the granting of bail in international extradition cases.

She disclosed that the Hong Kong District Court had released Zeng on bail pending

trial. However, days before his trial in July 2011, Zeng left his home and never returned.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Thursday found probable cause to warrant the filing of a criminal case against Zeng. She ruled that there is probable cause to believe that Zeng committed the crime of making a false statement to a federal agency.

The complaint alleges that Zeng knowingly and willfully lied to U.S. Customs and Border Protection by declaring on his entry form that he had not previously applied for a U.S. immigrant or non-immigrant visa.

A separate hearing will be held on Feb. 18 on the U.S. government's separate filing

of a complaint for provisional arrest with a view toward extraditing Zeng.

This will be the first high-profile extradition between the U.S. and Hong Kong governments since Washington's failed bid to secure the return of former National Security Agency contractor and whistleblower Edward Snowden in June 2013.

Zeng was arrested on Jan. 16 when he allegedly used a different identity to try to enter Saipan from Shanghai, China. He sought admission to

the CNMI using the name Zhi Qian Liu.

On July 4, 2011, the Hong Kong District Court issued a warrant for Zeng's arrest on the basis of charges that he bribed a bank official in Hong Kong with

a bag filled with HK \$2.3 million, the equivalent of \$300,000 in October 2010.

The cash was allegedly a reward for the bank official's help in a multi-million Hong Kong dollar loan extension application and for giving favorable credit information relating to Zeng's two companies.

Racketeering suit vs Quichocho, his wife begins in federal court

A federal jury trial began yesterday in a businesswoman's racketeering lawsuit against lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho and his wife.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom late afternoon yesterday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona was still conducting jury selection.

Attorneys Colin Thompson and Robert T. Torres are counsels for Korean businesswoman Jung Ja Kim. Attorney Michael Dotts are representing Quichocho, his wife Frances, and the Quichocho law firm.

The issues to be tried are three counts of Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organi-

zation Act conspiracies, two counts of legal malpractice, one count of fraud as a claim and as a counterclaim, one count of conversion as a claim and as a counterclaim, one count of breach of a lease, one count for attorney's fees as a matter of contract and on the basis of unjust enrichment, one count of interference with marital relations, one count seeking accounting, and one count seeking the imposition of an equitable trust.

Kim used to be client of Quichocho. She also filed separate disciplinary complaints against the lawyer in federal court and Superior Court. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Guam lawmakers question \$20M pay raises

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam lawmakers are telling a government administrator they need a breakdown of costs to approve \$20 million in raises for government workers.

Pacific Daily News reported that Department of Administration Director Benita Manglona couldn't specify Friday how the \$20 million figure was reached.

Senate Vice Speaker Benjamin Cruz told Manglona there has to be a breakdown for each department to justify approving the \$20 million.

Cruz and other territorial senators wanted to know, in part, how much money would go to the Education Department. The agency takes up most of the territorial government's payroll.

Cruz called for a one-hour break from a legislative hearing to allow Manglona to obtain a breakdown.

"We'll try," she said.

But Cruz insisted the breakdown be provided.

"No, you will get those numbers because...\$20 million, it didn't just fall from the sky," Cruz said. "You have to have one plus five plus four plus eight plus two....How did you get to the \$20 million?"

Manglona became defiant as senators continued to press her for a breakdown. She says previous pay raises were approved without the same scrutiny.

"Back in 2010, you didn't ask these questions. You approved the plan and you let the administration handle it when our finances were in terrible shape," Manglona said. "We have done well in managing the cash."

The raises approved in 2010 were put on hold by Gov. Eddie Calvo's administration amid financial troubles for the territory.

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Lengthy hearing on petition for attorney's fees, costs

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood held yesterday a lengthy evidentiary hearing on the petition of Betty Johnson's Hawaii-based counsel for over \$17.5 million in attorney's fees and costs.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom late afternoon yesterday, attorney Margery Bronster of the Bronster Hoshibata law firm was still questioning her co-counsel, Robert Hatch, who was on the witness stand.

Bronster also grilled Johnson's original counsel, Bruce Jorgensen, during which Tydingco-Gatewood would remind the two several times not to talk at the same time.

Bronster disclosed, among other things, that Jorgensen once asked her to deliver "gifts" to federal court personnel and security.

One of those "gifts," Bronster said, was a calendar that contained photos of skimpily clad women. She said she told Jorgensen she could not do it as she believes it is not proper. She then presented the calendar in court.

Jorgensen smiled and explained that it was a calendar that can be purchased for 99 cents and that the other gifts were coffee.

"I used to bring coffee here," Jorgensen said. "This is a different community than you're used to."

Jorgensen said that Saipan, where he stayed for several

years, is a close-knit community. "We even used to barbecue on top of this building," Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen admitted that he is afraid to come here because of his representation of Johnson and other previous cases as well as personal matters.

"I watch my back," Jorgensen said, disclosing that he had prior information that then-governor Benigno R. Fitial was against him.

Jorgensen said that Bronster also told him that Gov. Eloy Inos dislikes him.

When asked by Bronster what percentage he did as his contribution in the filings of the case after the Bronster Hoshibata law firm joined him as co-counsel for Johnson, Jorgensen replied, "Five to 10

percent or beyond that."

Jorgensen also claimed a 25-percent participation rate at the hearings.

He also accused Bronster of suddenly taking "a 180 degrees" and of treating him "like a demon."

Bronster reiterated their previous position that, while Jorgensen initiated this case in June 2009 and defeated a motion to dismiss, the case was soon stayed in January 2010. She said no substantive progress was made until after their law firm took the lead in 2011.

Bronster narrated to the court the many actions that their law firm initiated that led to the successful settlement of the class action.

She pointed out that given

the enormous risk undertaken in this case and the excellent results for the class members, a multiplier of 15 for their lodestar is very reasonable.

Lodestar refers to the "reasonable number of hours multiplied by a reasonable rate."

Assistant attorney general Teresita Sablan, on behalf of the CNMI government, argued, among other things, that the reasonable fee for Bronster Hoshibata is the lodestar amount without a multiplier. Sablan pointed out that the lodestar amount is already

enough to compensate the class counsel.

Sablan said there is no complex issue in Johnson's class action, but just the jurisdiction matter.

"What is reasonable is lodestar without a multiplier," she added.

The CNMI government has agreed to pay Jorgensen \$800,000 in attorney's fees and costs, and Johnson's local counsel, Stephen Woodruff, \$185,000. The payment is subject to federal court's approval.

CHC

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a lump sum of \$3 million on March 12.

If the MPLT board approves this extension request, the corporation will be accorded the line of credit for a third year now. However, this may not be an easy decision for MPLT, which has some concerns over the needed collaterals for the new loan.

MPLT legal counsel Robert Torres specifically cited the property the corporation used as collateral in the first two years when it got the \$3 million line of credit as well as the \$1.5 million loan for the hospital's electronic health record project.

It will be recalled that former governor Benigno Fitial assigned to the CHCC in January 2012 two parcels of land on Navy Hill that the corporation was supposed to lease out. The Inos administration, however, took the properties back in November last year and assigned them to the Department of Public Lands. DPL now handles the two parcels of land adjacent to the CHC with total of 38,500 square meters.

"Now that the Navy Hill

property have been transferred back to DPL, I am not so sure if they can pledge it anymore for collateral [for the new loan] and whether DPL will agree or not," said Torres during Friday night's board meeting on Capital Hill. He said that using the same property as collateral would require direct dealing with DPL.

Under the original line of credit, CHCC can be provided a line of credit of up to five years depending on its financial capability to satisfy the loan.

MacMillan said he would encourage the corporation to formalize its request for an extension of line of credit. That way, corporation officials can be invited to appear before the MPLT board to answer further questions.

"It would probably be appropriate to invite them to present to the board and see how they're doing instead of providing automatic blanket approval of their request," suggested MacMillan.

Saipan Tribune learned that also being used as collateral in the present line of credit is the hospital's accounts receivables. Under the same agreement, CHCC can make advance payments on the loan, which could save the hospital in interest payments.

ADVISER

From Page 1

same—that it is always good to assess the CNMI's political status periodically.

This comes weeks after the CNMI House of Representatives passed Rep. Felicidad Ogomoro's (R-Saipan) bill creating a Second Marianas Political Status Commission that would examine "whether the people desire continuing in a political union" with America under the Covenant. The bill is now under Senate review.

This year marks the CNMI's 38-year political relationship with the United States through the signing of the Covenant.

"Periodic assessment is always beneficial and this is something which is very well laid out in the legislation, and it's something that doesn't necessarily mean that there will be

any major change. It could very well be that that is the determination..." Corbin said in an interview, in the presence of Ogomoro and former House speaker Pedro Paduna Deleon Guerrero.

Former representative Stanley Torres pushed the creation of the Second Marianas Political Status Commission for years but the effort proved futile. Ogomoro resurrected the proposal.

Corbin said the legislation is "spot on in terms of the way in which the assessment process can be taken forward."

Corbin said a periodic assessment of a political relationship benefits the parties involved—to see whether the arrangement meets the current needs of the parties involved, or whether the relationship needs updating or "modernizing," among other things.

"One of the things I found

since I made that observation is that a number of areas in the world are doing just that and they are looking at their political arrangements, constitutional arrangements that they may have with larger countries, and in some cases, neighboring countries," he said.

Corbin cited Bougainville and Papua New Guinea, as well as the Dutch Antilles, which he said has undergone "a major fragmentation, with five islands separating or becoming new entities."

The Netherlands Antilles, an autonomous Caribbean country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, was dissolved on Oct. 10, 2010, and the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, and Saba became special municipalities of the Netherlands proper, while Curaçao and Sint Maarten became constituent countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

GOLD

From Page 1

Meanwhile, the Inos administration said it would like to obtain more information about the reported minerals.

The speaker, on his way to Washington, D.C. later this month to meet with federal officials, said he would be posing questions—and hopes to obtain answers—about reported valuable minerals within or near the CNMI.

He cited, for example, online publications stating that two seafloor mining companies—Canada-based Nautilus Minerals and Australia-based Neptune Minerals—have applied for mining exploration licenses in the CNMI.

In their respective websites, the companies said they plan to mine the world's seafloor copper-gold sites, also called seafloor massive sulphide, or SMS, deposits.

SMS are high-grade hydrothermal deposits rich in copper, zinc, and lead with a high gold and silver content found on the

ocean floor.

Quoting online resources, the speaker cited that in January 2006, Neptune Minerals applied for exploration licenses covering approximately 147,000 square kilometers along the Marianas Arc and the associated back-arc basin offshore from the CNMI.

That was three years before then-President Bush signed in January 2009 a proclamation establishing the CNMI's three northernmost islands a part of a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

"The articles didn't say whether they [Nautilus and Neptune] were granted a license [when they applied for it]," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

His first question is: "What is out there?"

"We want to know and confirm what is out there. If the federal government has information about what's out there, I think we should be informed," Deleon Guerrero said.

The second question, he said, would be whether the federal government has granted anyone

a license to mine these minerals.

"The third question is, in the context of the submerged lands conveyance to the CNMI, if these deposits are within the 3 miles territorial waters, are we entitled to any royalties or revenues? If the licenses were issued prior to the conveyance, and now that it has been conveyed, are those rights also transferred?" Our reading of the Submerged Lands Act is that we are not," the speaker said.

But he said he would like the U.S. government to confirm such.

Another question is whether the U.S. Department of the Interior would still issue licenses to seafloor mining companies now that the CNMI controls its 3-mile submerged lands, except those in the Marianas Trench Marine Monument and around military leases on Tinian and Farallon de Medinilla.

"We don't have any type of authority regulating underwater or seabed mining. There's a lot of questions that need to be asked and clarified," the House speaker added.

Another online publication tackling the Marianas Trench

Marine Monument stated that in the seabed around the Marianas Trench and Rose Atoll National Monuments, geologists have identified "hard minerals like phosphate, abyssal manganese, ferromanganese, cobalt, sulfide, olivine, feldspar, clinopyroxene, opaline, silica and pyrite as well as hydrothermal deposits of gold and silver—and the world's richest deposits of baryte (barite)."

The publications says under those seabed is "the world's largest oil and natural gas reserves."

"Preliminary estimates suggest the oil and natural gas reserves will dwarf the combined reserves found under the North Slope of Alaska and in the Arabian Peninsula—combined," the publication adds.

The House speaker also cited another online article stating that the establishment of the Marianas Trench as a National Marine Monument prohibiting mining "could have effectively neutralized some of these mining activities in the Marianas."

Still, the speaker said this is a question that needs to be asked

and hopefully answered.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), meanwhile, earlier asked Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to take action on the transfer of oil, gas, and other mineral rights to the CNMI, now that the U.S. transfer of control over submerged lands to the CNMI has started.

At the time, Sablan said he's not aware of any such leases or grants that the federal government may have issued in areas that the CNMI now owns.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when sought for comment yesterday, said he's not aware if the information the speaker has gathered has been directly communicated to the administration.

"However, it is definitely something that the administration would like to obtain more information about. At this point, the government's view is that the submerged lands conveyed to the Commonwealth are the property of the Commonwealth. As such, any and all matters that affect these areas should be addressed to and by the Commonwealth," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Deleon Guerrero, at Sablan's invitation, would be meeting with officials from the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense. Also among his key concerns are the U.S. military's plans for Pagan and Tinian and the entire CNMI.

When asked whether he's perplexed that the U.S. government has not brought the issue of minerals to the CNMI's attention, the speaker said "maybe because we never asked" or "maybe because all rights and authority over the waters surrounding the Marianas were under federal control."

Meanwhile, on Friday afternoon, the CNMI House of Representatives adopted a joint resolution urging Congress to recognize the rights of people of Northern Marianas descent to control its exclusive economic zone—the submerged lands and water extending 200 miles around the islands.

By a vote of 19-1, the House adopted Rep. Felicidad Ogomoro's (R-Saipan) House Joint Resolution 18-1 introduced a year ago. The resolution is on its way to the CNMI Senate.

6 win State Mathcourt contest



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of this year's CNMI Mathcourt Team pose with competition coordinators and volunteers after winning the State Mathcourt Competition held at Saipan Southern High School recently. The group will advance to national event on May 16 in Kansas, Missouri.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Six students from private and public secondary schools were this year's big winners in the State Mathcourt Competition, earning the right to compete at the national level as the official CNMI Mathcourt Team.

Dora Miura, Public School System Mathcourt competition coordinator for secondary schools, disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that 11 teams participated in the state event, held at Saipan Southern High School on Jan. 11.

All participants went through the competition format used in Mathleague, which includes a team round, a relay round, a spring round, and a target round.

Won Woo Choi, an 11th grader from Marianas Baptist Academy, emerged as the gold medal winner in the state competition.

Hailed as the second top performer and silver medalist this year is 10th grader Harim Kim, also from MBA.

The bronze award went to Saipan Southern High School's 12th grader Kay Ha, while fourth place went to SSHS 11th grader Hyun Bin Hwang. In fifth place is 11th grader Jun Seo Park, also from SSHS.

Ha Yong Seo, an 8th grader from Marianas Baptist Academy, was named a qualifier from the middle school division and will join the CNMI Mathcourt Team.

On the list of alternates for the national Mathcourt event are Jeremy Kong (8th grade, Agape Christian School); Ming Zhe Li (11th grade, ACS); Dong Hee Im (10th grade, Saipan International School); Kanata Omori (12th grade, Marianas Baptist Academy); and Justin Youm (11th grade, Grace Christian Academy).

Top teams

Based on the result of the State Mathcourt competition, five schools teams were recognized as the best in this year's event.

The gold medal award for

group team was bagged by MBA with members Won Woo Choi, Kanata Omori, and Harim Kim.

The silver medal in the group category went to SSHS, with members Hyun Bin Hwang, Jun Seo Park, and Kay Ha.

The bronze medal went to the SIS team with members Dong Gu Hyun, Dong Hee Im, and Jee Hyun Lee.

Fourth placer is ACS team with members Allen Guo, Bei Bei Chen, and Ming Zhe Li.

League championship

According to Miura, the CNMI Team is now preparing for the League Championship in Kansas, Missouri, to be held on May 16 this year. The group will be joined by their coach, Emanuel P. Borja. The CNMI Mathcourt competition began in 2005 in order to promote mathematics in the CNMI.

The CNMI sent its first state team to the American Regions Mathematics League Competition in 2010.

Buckingham bid to suppress contents of his email denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has denied former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham's motion to suppress the contents of the latter's email that the CNMI government had obtained via a search warrant. The email exchanges cover a span of three days.

In an order Friday, Govendo ruled that three days is a sufficiently short and limited period of time so as not to infringe on Buckingham's rights or to be deemed "exploratory rummaging."

Govendo said the time frame is limited to a three-day window, in which it was reasonable to expect that email communication could have been directed to the Office of the Attorney General.

"Further, because the OAG does not provide government email addresses to its [assistant attorneys general], it is impossible to expect that the Commonwealth could have reasonably limited the search to specific email addresses," the judge pointed out.

The OAG obtained a search warrant for the contents of Buckingham's email during the time of Aug. 3 to 6, 2012. Buckingham, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, filed a motion to suppress, claiming that the warrant lacks probable cause.

In support of the warrant, Office of the Public Auditor investigator Juanette David-Atalig provided a sworn affidavit where she disclosed that she attended Buckingham's initial hearing, in which assistant attorney general Gilbert Birnrich represented him.

David-Atalig said she reviewed recordings of Birnrich's testimony at the House of Representatives' hearings related to then-governor Benigno R. Fitial's impeachment, during which Birnrich testified about the OAG's representation of Buckingham.

The investigator said that Birnrich testified that he was "cc'd" on an email from Buckingham directing another assistant attorney general, Charles Brasington, to appear at Buckingham's initial appearance, coordinate with Fitial regarding this representation, and use any

resources of the OAG deemed appropriate in effectuating his representation.

In denying the motion, Govendo said it seems clear that probable cause for the warrant exists. Govendo said the facts as described by David-Atalig provide enough cause to expect that Buckingham contacted the OAG for representation in this criminal case.

"While she was aware of only one email in particular, there are enough facts provided to reasonably expect that multiple emails were sent between the defendant and the OAG in relation to the theft of services charge," the judge said.

Govendo said it was reasonable to suspect that there were responses to that email and perhaps other emails on this specific topic.

The Office of the Public Auditor filed 12 criminal charges against Buckingham in connection with an alleged violation of election laws and illegal award of a sole-source contract, among others. Four of those charges have already been dismissed.

Buckingham's bench trial will start on Feb. 10.

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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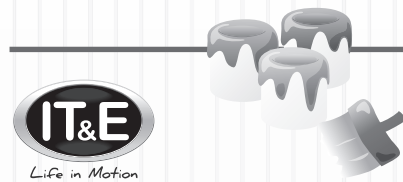
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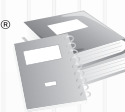
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Saipan Seventh-day Adventist Clinic

- Seventh Day Adventist School
- Cha Cha Junior High School

Shirley's COFFEE SHOP



- Oleai Elementary School
- San Antonio Elementary School

For inquiries please contact Celia Pillarina at 235-2440 ext. 171

UOG experts help Hawaii eradicate invasive rhino beetles

A rhino beetle infestation has been found on the island of Oahu on a golf course next to the runway on the Hickham Air Force Base. University of Guam researchers Dr. Aubrey Moore and Roland Quitugua were invited to Hawaii as ex-

perts and were able to offer valuable information on how to identify and eradicate coconut rhinoceros beetle breeding sites. Hawaii is benefiting from technology developed on Guam by Moore and Quitugua in collaboration with Dr. Matt Siderhurst and Dr. Eric Jang at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center in Hilo, Hawaii.

These collaborative efforts have resulted in two new rhino beetle trap designs. New panel traps equipped with a solar powered ultraviolet light emitting diodes catch more than three times as many beetles as standard pheromone traps. In addition, recently developed barrel traps, which simulate rhino beetle breeding sites,

catch more than 10 times as many beetles as standard pheromone traps.

Moore and Quitugua spent a week on Oahu at the request of the USDA to assist in planning an attempt to eradicate the rhino beetle population before it can spread from Hickam Air Force Base to other parts of the island. They trained Hawaii Department of Agriculture, USDA personnel, and 30 stakeholders from the public and private sectors on how to identify rhino beetle dam-

age on palms trees and how to find breeding sites. They also helped to develop protocol procedures for rhino beetle eradication.

Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry, Quarantine Branch officer Wilfred Leon Guerrero, whose father is a past president of UOG, discovered the first rhino beetle breeding site found in Hawaii. He learned about the rhino beetle on a recent visit to Guam and recognized signs of infestation.

To report invasive species sightings on Guam, call 475-PEST (7378). **(UOG)**



University of Guam entomologist Dr. Aubrey Moore works in the field beside the newly improved coconut rhinoceros beetle panel trap equipped with solar-powered ultraviolet lights.

OLYMPIA TERRAL

Weeklong energy awareness event on Tinian

The Department of Public Works through the Energy Division Office will be hosting an Energy Awareness Event on Monday, Feb. 10, through Friday, Feb. 14, 2014, from 9am to 4pm for the residents of Tinian at the Tinian CUC Payment Center.

The Energy Division will be distributing CFL's and reusable tote bags as part of its Energy Awareness Program. This project is made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, State Energy Program and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The cornerstone of this campaign is to "Take action now, empower leadership, innovation and excellence to realize a secure energy future," encouraging everyone to participate by taking small steps that make a big difference and by challenging people to do more to help reduce the effects of global warming with more energy-efficient choices at home and at work.

These promotions are available to all residential paying customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., on a first-come, first-serve basis, and therefore, must provide a copy of their most current CUC utility bill and a valid ID to receive the free items. Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event.

For questions or information regarding the Energy Awareness Event you may contact the Energy Division at telephone nos. 664-4480/1. **(Office of the Governor)**

SDA to host 'Give Kids a Smile' event

February is a very special month. It is known as the love month due to Valentine's day, which celebrates or at least reminds us to show our love for our special ones, whether it be by taking them to dinner, a movie, flowers, candy or all of the above. What most people don't know is that February is also Children's Dental Health Month. This celebration has been observed all month-long across the continental USA for the last 65 years. Here in the CNMI the Seventh-day Adventist Dental Clinic is in our 14th year of observing this special month.

NCDHM is meant to bring attention and awareness about the importance of oral health. Why is this type of celebration—and year-round attention to children's dental health—important? Because even though tooth decay can be prevented, dental cavities are still very common among our school age children. More than 40 percent of children between the ages of 2 and 11 have had a cavity in their baby teeth, and more than two-thirds of 16-19-year-olds have had a cavity in their permanent teeth.

Despite all the efforts that have been made to decrease cavities in children, tooth decay has actually increased in preschool age children in recent years.

It is not all bad news; there are things that can be done to prevent cavities in young children. Such as;

- Have children drink water and avoid drinks with sugar.
- Give children fruits and veggies and not candy/sugar.
- Switch from bottle to sip cup by 1 year old.
- Have your child visit the dentist at least once a year.

The Seventh-day Adventist Clinic will kick off its monthlong celebration this Friday, Feb. 7, by hosting a free children's clinic on Quartermaster Road. "Give Kids a Smile" is the name of the event that will be held from 8am to 12pm this Friday. Several hygienists from the clinic will be doing weekly dental health presentations at some elementary public schools throughout the island. The clinic will have many dental health related messages at the billboard located near Micro Toyota, as well as well as providing weekly articles for the local newspaper.

We ask the general public to help in the fight against cavities by practicing healthy habits and bringing your kids in for a free dental exam during the month of February. Please call our office at 670-234-6323 for an appointment. **(SDA)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

February 04 , 2013

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Sea Touch. LLC	11/20/2013 SMS-2013-X-070	Sharks & Rays Marine Parks	Fiesta Resort	Major Siting	Approved (01/30/2014)*
2. Blue Lagoon Realty Inc.	12/27/2013 SMS-98-X-56 (2013 Amend)	Change of Ownership	As Perdido	Amendment	Approved (01/03/2014)*
3. Saipan Crew Boats	12/27/2013 SPlm-2013-X-077	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial	Approved (12/30/2013)*
4. Windsurfing Saipan, Inc.	01/03/2014 SLRm-2014-X-001	32nd Micronesia Open	Micro Beach	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (01/09/2014)*
5. Saipan Sunset Cruise	01/03/2014 SLRm-2014-X-002	In-Water Vessel Maintenance	Lagoon & Reef Areas	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (01/09/2014)*
6. CIP	01/02/2014 SSm-2014-X-003	Water Quality Restoration	Garapan	Shoreline APC	Approved (01/29/2014)*
7. Pacific Island Club	01/09/2014 SSm-2014-X-004	Tree Trimming	San Antonio	Shoreline APC	Approved (01/10/2014)*
8. Cong. Antonio R. Agulto	01/10/2014 SSm-2014-X-006	Concrete Guard Rail	Kagman(Forbidden Island)	Shoreline APC	Under Review

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Family grief support meeting on Feb. 6

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter in Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and Guam offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, call Jill Derickson at 322-3425 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. **(PR)**

Guam senators pass Responsible Wage Implementation Act

Guam senators passed Bill 268-32, introduced by Sen. Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, on Saturday which will implement the Hay Study pay increases for classified and unclassified employees while also eliminating the governor's proposed pay increases for himself, the lieutenant governor, senators and all politically appointed directors and deputy directors.

"This bill prevents the governor's original and more costly proposal from automatically becoming effective, and instead eliminates the pay to all elected officials, directors, and deputy directors, while providing a reduced salary adjustment for mayors and vice mayors. If the Legislature did not take action the governor's more expensive proposal would have kicked in, and huge raises for elected officials and management would have cost the people of Guam up to \$4 million more per year," said San Nicolas.

"I hope the governor signs this bill so that we can spend less than what he proposed, and so that the money he proposed can instead be spent in priority service areas to our people. If he does not sign this bill, vetoes it, and allows his original plan to become law, he will be rejecting a more responsible spending approach, instead pushing raises for himself and his directors and \$75,000 for mayors," San Nicolas added.

A veto of Bill 268-32 would allow the governor's original proposal to give senators a \$25,000 salary increase to proceed. Bill 268-32 eliminates that salary increase.

"With this bill we say 'no' to all that, limit raises only to classified and unclassified employees, limit initial salary increases to the \$7 million we appropriated in the budget passed in October, and require funding justification for expenses greater than \$7 million. It's a follow through to only spend what we budgeted for, and to prevent anyone from piggy backing their own raise on the backs of and at the expense of rank and file employees," said San Nicolas.

"I am so proud of my Democrat senator colleagues' position on this issue, who are brave enough and love our people enough to make this stand. I wish our Republican senator colleagues, who I know have to see the common sense in reducing the cost of this would have joined us at least this one time in saying 'no' to the governor, but everything in its own time I suppose. I hope that time is soon," said San Nicolas. **(PR)**

Fletcher justifies CUC management decisions, expenses

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Second of a two-part story

Editor's Note: Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher spoke up Friday to justify the agency's decisions on several matters, which he claimed were made to ultimately stabilize utilities services to customers. This story continues from yesterday's story.

Pipeline project

In 2011, CUC had the approvals and was ready to build the oil pipeline project, after finally securing funding. Unfortunately, the professional EPA-approved construction man-

ager, after questioning design issues, left the project. At that time, EPA disapproved the design and required the project to be redesigned to more closely adhere to U.S. Department of Transportation standards.

"The result has been that the project price has increased. The higher costs are due to the fact that we had to engage a professional pipeline designer from the U.S. mainland who could design the project to the standards required. In addition, there are extra regulatory requirements CUC has to comply with which cost money," said Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher.

CUC, he said, is very concerned about the cost of the pipeline. CUC must, however,

continue to work with the court and EPA to complete the project or face fines and/or possible receivership of the project. The District Court orders issued last October directed CUC to enter into a contract directly with a named EPA-approved engineering firm. CUC is working to expedite the project so that it can be completed this year.

Renewable energy

Fletcher disclosed that CUC has pushed forward with renewable energy planning, and the results of the 2013 Renewable Energy Integration Study have begun to answer important questions concerning how much renewable energy (solar, wind) can be reli-

ably integrated into the Saipan electrical grid.

"Developing new power generation sources is a major undertaking and can take many years to implement. Due to the immense cost of new energy sources and the long-term rate implications to customers, exceptional care must be taken in identifying new energy sources," he said.

Striving for success

"CUC is striving for continued successes and in overcoming the numerous challenges it faces. We are doing this always with our customers first and foremost in our minds. We seek to avoid the failed management and operating practices that resulted

in collapse, public health and environmental compliance violations, and the everyday problems that can plague any utility. We are attempting to build a modern, efficient system that operates with adequate safeguards for public health and the environment, coupled with reliability and the lowest costs prudently possible. The employees of CUC have made a lot of progress over the last few years and we have seen successes in more reliable power, water, and wastewater services. We still have a long way to go and, without question, balancing scarce financial resources against service levels and reliability is our greatest challenge," concluded Fletcher.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI State Board of Education signed Friday a proclamation endorsing Feb. 3 through 7 as National School Counseling Week and called upon students, teachers, staff of public schools, and PTA organizations to observe the event with appropriate programs and activities supporting the occasion.

Acting BOE chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita signed the proclamation Friday during the PSS Parents Summit held at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, in the presence of school counselors, administrators, and stakeholders.

The proclamation was made in line with the American School Counselor Association sponsorship of the National School Counseling Week with the theme "Building Magical Futures." The national event aims to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within the U.S. school systems.

"School counselors are employed in public and private schools to help students reach

Feb. 3-7 is School Counseling Week



CNMI State Board of Education acting chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita, third from right, signs the proclamation endorsing Feb. 3-7 as National School Counseling Week during Friday's annual PSS Parents Summit held at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859 • Fax: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,)
Plaintiff,) CIVIL ACTION
vs.) NO. 11-0104
VICENTE P. CASTRO and)
DOLORES C. PANGELINAN,) AMENDED
and) SUMMONS
PREPEDIANA KILELEMAN,)
BERNARD KILELEMAN and,)
TYRONE KILELEMAN,)
Successors in Interest,)
Defendants.)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS
VICENTE P. CASTRO and
DOLORES C. PANGELINAN:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file an answer you wish to make to the COMPLAINT within twenty (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Foreclosure.

SO ORDERED on this 30th day of January 2014.
/s/ Clerk of Court

David R. Maratita and Claire Ann L. Maratita
P.O. Box 504515
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 322-8369, 285-1821

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of) FCD AD
The Adoption Of:) CIVIL ACTION
C. K. L. R. (05/27/2010)) NO. 14-0010

Minor Child,) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
By:)
David R. Maratita and)
Claire Ann L. Maratita)
Petitioners)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on February 24, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Allen I. Palacios,) FCD-DI
Petitioner,) CIVIL ACTION
Vs.) NO. 13-0625
Carmelita T. Palacios,) **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
Respondent.)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 502739 Saipan MP, 96950 as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

DATED, this 26th day of December, 2013:
/s/ Clerk of Court

Job Vacancy Announcement

Marketing Representative / Delivery Man (1 position) \$5.55/hour
Qualification Requirements:
*SOC ONet 41-4011.00 *Must have a 2 college degree with at least 2 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high school diploma with possessing minimum 5 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Marketing Assistant Manager (1 position) \$6.50/hour
Qualification Requirements:
*SOC ONet 11-2021.00 *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a 2-year college degree with at least 8 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Office Adm/Operations Manager (1 position) \$7.00/hour
Qualification Requirements:
*SOC synthesized ONet 11-1021.00 & 11-3011.00*Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high-school diploma with possessing minimum 10 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Purchasing Administrative Assistant (1 position) \$6.50/hour
Qualification Requirements:
*SOC ONet 11-3061.00 *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 2 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a 2-year college degree with at least 6 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Well knowledge in Chinese merchandise and export government regulations and processing *Fluent in Chinese speaking, listening, reading and writing *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Willing to travel frequently *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Interested applicants please submit a resume with supporting documents to APEX Corporation, Contact Person: Michael Zhang or Peter Xu, Fax number: (670) 288-3389 before 5:00 P.M., February 6, 2014. Thank you.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

From right, Saipan Southern High School's Youth Environment Ambassadors Michael Lizama, Michael Kokkun, Katrina Cruz, M.J. Masongsong, Christina Espinosa, April Indalecio, Lussie Son, and (back) SSSH teacher Roy Adsit pose for a photo.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Saipan Mocyang Church group volunteers pose for a photo.

Sugar Dock gets some lovin' with cleanup

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Cleaning the shores of Saipan is something that 5-year-old Ulumar Ogumoro-Uludong considers fun and he wishes that more people his age would make an effort to pick up trash as well.

His father, Aling Ogumoro, himself a Division of Environmental Quality employee, shared that he and his son have been doing this for a total of eight times over the past two years.

Last Saturday, Ulumar's 3-year-old sister, Amaya, joined her father and brother for the first time to pick up trash at Sugar Dock. They were joined by several DEQ personnel, students, and community members for the DEQ monthly cleanup.

Aling Ogumoro said he and his children make it an effort to come out every month to ensure that the environment is clean for residents and tourists alike. "It is all our responsibility, no matter how old, to maintain our islands."

Seven seniors from the Saipan Southern High School's Youth Environmental Ambassadors



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Five-year-old Ulumar and his sister Amaya clean the shores of Sugar Dock last Saturday with their father Aling Ogumoro at the DEQ monthly cleanup.

sadors were also up early Saturday morning to join the cleanup.

"DEQ makes it easier for us to clean the beaches because we show up and they have the materials and they also take the trash afterwards," said YEA

adviser and SSSH teacher Roy Adsit. "My message to the community would be not to throw your trash."

The group was the recipient of the Green School Award at MINA's Green Gala last year.

The Saipan Mocyang Church group was also in attendance. Member Catherine Norach said the cleanup was the first the group has participated in and that they are "trying to get the youth more involved in the environment." She added that they are making it a point to be a more "green" organization this year.

The cleanup was originally planned to take place at Old Man by the Sea but was moved to Sugar Dock due to the recent inclement weather.

According to DEQ director Frank Rabauliman, the monthly cleanups started in 1997 and have never stopped since then. "Our job is to do outreach and encourage everybody to be environmental stewards."

He shared that 30 people on average participate in the monthly cleanup.

One of the places on Saipan that Rabauliman said is in dire need of maintenance is the old Koblerville runway. He said that on some occasions dump trucks dispose garbage at the site. "It is our mess, our responsibility, our island and we have to keep it beautiful."

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

February 4, 2006

Dialysis center running out of funds

The Fitial administration is pushing for the reprogramming of funds for the completion of the public health and hemodialysis center project on Saipan. Acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez said during a news briefing yesterday that unless new funds are made available, there is no hope that the building will open as scheduled. "The project continues to be underfunded. We'd be asking the Legislature for reprogramming of funds," said Villagomez. He said, though, that the construction is now 70 percent complete. "We finally had a chance to tour the site. Surprisingly, it is now 70-percent complete," said the acting governor. The Babauta administration and the previous Legislature had already reprogrammed \$5.8 million for the project in 2004.

WTF to let go of some personnel

The Fitial administration is letting go of clerical personnel at the CNMI Water Task Force who earn between \$35,000 and \$40,000 a year, acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez said yesterday. According to Villagomez, there are currently three administrative staff members at the task force who are doing the job of one person. They are receiving an annual salary ranging between \$35,000 and \$40,000. "We will be downsizing the task force. We will remove some clerical staff and let the agency use the pool of administrative staff from other agencies," Villagomez, who now chairs the task force.

February 4, 2007

NMI team off to DC again

A local delegation of government and business leaders will leave for Washington D.C. again this week to tackle this time issues surrounding the local immigration. CNMI House Speaker Oscar M. Babauta and Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Juan T. Guerrero said they are set to leave for D.C. either today or tomorrow to attend the Feb. 8 hearing set by the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction on insular areas. "We're refining our position paper that will be submitted to the U.S. Senate. We've got a number of people doing it," said Guerrero in an interview.

PSS seeking new \$42M budget

The cash-strapped Public School System is seeking an increase in its budget allocation for Academic Year 2007-2008. According to PSS acting Finance director and Federal Programs adviser Tim Thornburgh, PSS would need at least \$42 million for its payroll and operations expenses alone next school year. Thornburgh said the budget proposal has already been completed and submitted to the CNMI State Board of Education for approval.

February 4, 2008

Some at CUC among highest paid

The cash-strapped Commonwealth Utilities Corp. employs some of the highest paid employees in government. CUC personnel data showed that executive director Anthony Guerrero, who has the largest salary at the utility, made \$84,000 a year before the 10-percent pay cut that the governor recently imposed on CUC. The second highest paid is senior engineer John Onedera. His salary was only \$200 lower than that of the CNMI governor, who earns \$70,000 a year.

Lawmakers torn between helping CUC and easing public's burden

House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios says he is not sure the Legislature can grant the governor's request to repeal a law that prohibits the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. from setting unregulated rates. Palacios, who authored Public Law 15-94 in the previous Legislature, said that lawmakers are torn between helping CUC pay for fuel and easing the burden on consumers. "This is a real dilemma that we have. We really must search our souls before we can make a decision. As much as we want to help solve the power crisis, we cannot allow CUC to raise the rates to a point where families cannot afford it. What's the use of having reliable power if people cannot afford it?" Palacios said. Palacios, along with other legislative leaders, met with CUC on Friday to discuss the utility's lack of funds for power generation fuel. At the meeting, CUC echoed the governor's plea for the Legislature to repeal P.L. 15-94, which brought residential power rates down in October 2007 and prohibits the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. from setting rates unilaterally.

Firm wants to waive anew \$1 fee for Mañagaha tourists

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc. has renewed its request to extend for another year the waiver on the \$1 per passenger fee collected from tourists going to Managaha Island but the Commonwealth Ports Authority is leaning toward turning this request down.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority first allowed Tasi Tours to suspend the \$1 per passenger seaplane facility charge in 2012 due to the challenges faced by the tourism industry. The same waiver was granted anew the following year.

On Jan. 3, Tasi Tours president Kazusuke Fukuju formally asked for another waiver of the seaplane facility charge. The extension request was sought until the seaplane dock has been renovated or CPA transfers to the Outer Cove Marina dock.

CPA board officials, however, are inclined to disapprove this latest request.

For board member Fermin Sakisat, the two years given to the tour company seems enough to help the firm in whatever recovery it may need in its operation.

The \$1 seaplane facility charge is for every tourist that

Man arrested for contempt

An ex-convict was arrested again on Jan. 28, 2014, at his house in Chalan Kanoa and was charged with contempt for allegedly violating his bail conditions.

Nelsin Anson Saimon, 26, is being kept on a \$1,000 cash bail.

Saimon is supposed to be under house arrest and that he should always be with his third-party custodian as part of his prior bail conditions.

However, according to the report filed by police detective Isapen Bokuku, she saw Saimon riding a bicycle from Beach Road, Chalan Piao to Chalan Kanoa on Jan. 28 at 11:07am.

Saimon reportedly went north passing Hopwood Junior High School and Bank of Guam, and went into an intersection by Viva Poker. Saimon headed straight to William Elementary School in Chalan Kanoa heading east. Bokuku said that she then honked and Saimon turned around and stopped. After Bokuku asked Saimon to come over, he turned his bike around and sped off.

Bokuku reported the matter to the Department of Corrections, saying that Saimon may have committed a crime of contempt.

Around 11:23am of the same day, Bokuku and police officer Travis Hurst arrived at the Saimon residence in Chalan Kanoa and found the suspect in front of the house. Hurst then arrested Saimon. (Jayson Camacho)

Tasi Tours drops off for Pacific Subsea, which transports tourists to Mañagaha Island.

CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama disclosed Friday during a board meeting that when the waiver was first approved in 2012, reports indicate that the company transported 90,000 passengers to Managaha Island. As of the third quarter of 2013, CPA reports indicate that

the company transported about 78,000 passengers.

"If we will translate those figures into dollars, this means that CPA lost potential revenues of about \$90,000 and \$78,000 in two years for waiving that fee. If every month they transport 30,000 tourists

to Managaha, that's the same amount in dollars that CPA lost for revenues monthly,"

Lizama explained to *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Lizama, CPA has a standing lease agreement with Pacific Subsea amounting to \$2,400 monthly. The company, she

said, is current on this lease payment. Because Tasi Tours provides customers to Pacific Subsea, the waiver was directly sought by the tour company with the ports authority.

Board member Michael San Nicolas, for his part, wants to know the reason behind Tasi Tours' new request. He said it is important for the board to know if the company is ex-

periencing a decline in tourist arrivals or not.

The board has agreed to defer action on the waiver extension pending further information and discussion with both the CPA management and the tour company. It is expected that a decision will be made at the next board meeting.

It was learned that the existing waiver expired on Jan. 31.

» **'CPA lost close to \$170K for waiving the fee in two years'**



TWO PROCLAMATIONS

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider joins advocates and volunteers Friday for a group photo after signing two proclamations—one declaring February 2014 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, and one declaring the same period as Parent Leadership Month.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Involvement of parents remain low in many public schools

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Despite efforts to encourage greater parental involvement, many public schools still experience low participation of parents in their children's educational activities even as about 300 students are absent each day.

This was learned during the Public School System's annual Parents Summit Friday where about 200 stakeholders took part in the whole-day session.

Parent-leader Vic Cepeda believes that school leaders should do more to encourage greater parental involvement in public schools.

In the many years that he had been involved in PTSA in many schools, Cepeda can't hide his disappointment with the situation of many teachers-parents organizations.

"I've been around for many years in our schools' PTSAs. But up to this time, I feel sad that there remains the problem about parental involvement. Many schools still have a very low participation of parents," Cepeda told the crowd.

Cepeda cited as an example the disappointing truth at Saipan Southern High School's PTSA, where only about 10 parents usually show up for meetings. The school has an enrollment of over 800 every school year.

"We need to improve our numbers because parents play a pivotal role in the education of their kids. Home is the first school for our children so let's do something about it," he said.

He is, however, proud of the good showing of the Hopwood Junior High School PTSA. He said the high parental participation in Hopwood is so far the best he remembers.

According to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, children are every parent's greatest achievement. The amount of involvement in a child's educational activities is a determining factor of their success, not only in their education but in their future as well.

"Sometimes, just being there to celebrate makes a lot of difference for our kids. It significantly contributes to improved student outcomes," said Sablan, who cited as an example the GES PTA members' presence when the school inaugurated a new six-classroom building last year.

Proper parental involve-

ment, she said, not only increases student outcomes but results in better attendance and more lessons are completed consistently.

Sablan revealed that in PSS, about 300 students are out of their classes each day. This translates to 3 percent of the over 10,000 enrollees in public schools every year. She urged parents to simply call schools whenever their children are absent for the day's class. This, she said, is part of parental involvement expected by the school system.

"There will be more connections between home and school, we will see fewer behavioral problems and we can expect a higher graduation rates," she added.

To be an effective parent-leader, parents too must be accountable and enrich themselves through trainings, she said.

"You should knock on doors. You ask the hard questions and engage other parents," she added.

BOE acting chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita, meantime, encouraged parents to take advantage of the training and program opportunities offered by PSS to help them become better parents. She assured that BOE and PSS will always be around to assist parents in making a difference in their children's lives.

Blanco-Maratita also encouraged parent leaders to make going to school exciting for their children every day.

» **Sablan: About 300 students absent each day in class**

McCreadie succeeds in passage of WICHE resolution

GUAM—After three months of discussion regarding Guam's membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Sen. Brant T. McCreadie successfully saw Resolution 234-32 through session Friday at the Guam Legislature. "My staff and I have worked

tirelessly since the filing of Resolution 234-32 to get to this point today. We are now one step closer to reduced tuition rates for residents for an off-island education," said McCreadie. "The next step is for the University of Guam and the Guam Community College

to agree that our college bound students deserve this opportunity and to open that door a little further to areas of study not offered locally."

With the approvals to join WICHE from the Legislature, the University of Guam, the Guam Community College, and the

Governor, more opportunities will arise for a higher education not just for high school graduates, but for any qualified applicants seeking an undergraduate degree, a graduate degree, a professional degree in a health field of study, and for those that prefer online courses of study. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Making college safe for women

“I’ve never been able to get close to a guy. I just imagined his hands on me every time and sort of spiraled into a breakdown. It’s not just one night they hurt you when they do stuff like that, it’s every night from then on. I can’t remember the last time I didn’t dream about what he did to me.”

Those are the words of a rape victim, a Penn State student who recounted her experience in an interview posted on an independent campus blog called Onward State. The victim also said that at times she felt responsible for the assault because she wore a short skirt, drank, and danced.

What happened to the young woman was of course not her fault, and it is all too common, according to a new White House report. Nearly one in five women in this country have experienced rape or attempted rape in their lifetimes, the report says. So have one in 71 men, another startling figure.

The numbers motivated President Obama, the father of two adolescent daughters, to launch a federal task force that has been given 90 days to recommend policies to reduce sexual assault on college campuses. “We’ve got to keep teaching young men in particular to show women the respect they deserve,” Obama said last week.

The report notes that some of the highest rates of sexual assault occur among students. “This violence, and the stress, fear, and mental health challenges that often follow, combine to increase dropout rates and limit opportunities for success in college,” wrote senior White House adviser Valerie Jarrett. Reducing sexual assaults, she added, is key to the administration’s goal of including more women in the workforce.

The relatively short 90-day time frame for the task force to complete its report may be a good sign given that this isn’t the first time Obama has addressed the topic. In 2010, he urged more aggressive action to decrease rapes. In 2011, the Department of Education issued new guidelines for colleges handling sexual assaults. In 2012, the government redefined rape to better reflect reality by including male victims. And last year, Obama signed a reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, which funds specialized training for law enforcement and health professionals.

By now, Obama must know that saying something should be done won’t get it done, so he’s created a task force to push things forward. Given its deadline, the panel should take full advantage of the wealth of recommendations already made by other organizations to reach consensus on what else the nation should do about sexual assault.

For example, Women Vote PA, an initiative of the Women’s Law Project, has made recommendations for schools at every level from kindergarten through college. First and foremost is adopting and making readily available to students clear guidance on what constitutes sexual misconduct, what is and is not consent, how to report an assault, and what campus and community resources are available to victims.

Ultimately, students must act more responsibly, too. As Obama said, it’s a matter of showing respect for one’s peers and being willing to step in to help those who are vulnerable.

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Lao Ye and Lao Tai Tai

It’s the calf. I do not mean the source of last night’s veal that roams freely in the grasslands of Nei Menggu with the ponies. No, it’s that part of my body down the leg behind the shin that keeps reminding me that perhaps the bones have gotten too brittle for the *Dong Bei* cold, and the muscles have declared their utmost sympathies. It cramps with the freezing temperature as if blood flow had gotten out of fashion.

The graying of the earth’s population came to our attention when the grey panthers of Florida declared themselves a political force. In China, *lao ye* literally means “old man,” as *lao tai tai* is “old lady,” but given the culture’s honoring stance toward ancestors and the elders, the first is also used for “grandpa” and the second for “great madam.” The second is never called “grandma,” unless one wants to be ignored; however, she will smile with “auntie.” *Laomai* is never used at all save as an expression of hate. It means “aged” in the sense of “senile.”

Not so much the age as the body, is what we become aware of, especially when we hear the whispering wind murmuring desperately south to the tropics, and the knees quickly concur. I am musing over the reality of growing old.

Life expectancies caught our attention when we discovered that Jesus of Nazareth at 33 was actually an old man in his lifetime. Then the Anglican cleric Malthus opined that our food production only increased arithmetically while the population growth was geometrical. The markets endeared competition, and science mistakenly went onward with the notion that life is naturally a case of the “survival of the fittest.” That was not too far from Hitler’s belief that the Aryan race was the apex of human evolution.

The Malthusian theory was an ingrained economic given in the 1960s until we proved otherwise. Food not only was adequate but became abundant, and life expectancy everywhere rose. Three percent of the United States population is engaged in agriculture producing 125 percent of what is needed. The surplus has caused the government to pay some farmers not to produce!

Industrialization and information technology, particularly finances on the latter, has since come to dominate employment in the first world, and the imperial ethos of most of the developed world led it to move not only mechanized agricultural production elsewhere but also industrial manufacturing as well. The imbalance is stark as the cities attracted more farm hands than it can employ, and the financial markets set so that the rich have gotten just filthy. There are 85 folks in this planet who own the equivalent of the total worth of 3.5 billion people—half of the world’s population. That is not just unfair, it is criminal!

Seventy percent of China used to live in the countryside farming, one of the reasons Mao took the side of the peasants against the learned urban *illuminati* in 1949, and again, during the Cultural Revolution. The certificated and diploma-holders occupied government and business positions living an elitist life style. The balance has since shifted since mechanized farming was introduced and

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



farmers who were no longer needed in the fields come out to the cities. The government registration system, the *huokuo*, did not catch up fast enough so that countryside registered folks are unable to access social services such as health and education in the city. That remains to be CCP’s current major challenges.

Another is the radical increase in life expectancy since the specter of famine had been eradicated after a fashion. The forced retirement age of men at 60 and women at 55 had just been upped by five years. The grey panther population poured their resources on their offspring(s) only to find themselves abandoned in old age in the countryside as the newer generation find their place in the workplace and are seemingly having difficulty at it close to home so they thrive into the crowded cities of the land.

Industrialization cannot absorb the workforce fast enough. At the turn into the millennium, less than 30 percent of high school graduates enrolled at universities. Last year, 62 percent were accommodated to learn about the art and discipline of physiological, social, psychological, and mechanical sciences. The government sprouted college campuses in China, in the same way that the United States created land grant colleges of which NMC was a direct beneficiary in the CNMI.

But the ranks of the *lao ye* and *lao tai tai* are evidently filled. Consequently, China just relaxed its one-child family and upped the retirement age. However, the wisdom of the ages has been left to stray on its own as older folks currently of the realm who fought the wars of sustainable livelihood has seemingly forsaken the reflective capacities of the ancient sages.

One poster that graces my room is that of old Lao Tzu pictured with white beard and mustache, slit-eyed, bald headed and with grayed temples, sitting on stones up the hill near a pine tree, left hand stroking the beard and the other, half stretched out like a mendicant monk with this quote:

If you are depressed,
you are living in the past.
If you are anxious,
you are living in the future.
If you are at peace,
you are living in the present.

It looks like I have good company in the monastic cloister of the soul.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Ripotkat Kabayeru

Mattu ta'lu sakan eleksion 'nai i botadot para u husga haf' che'chu' kabayeru siha deste mapos na sakan gi Eneru.

Siempre ta baba kada unu paketiña para talie' haf' chechoña yan kau i lai ni un' choneg gai sustansia gi adelanton linala' i tautau siha gi seŋsoŋ.

Estague' na puntu para u dinetmina lamayot patte futtunamu kumu offisiat publiku. Yangin lamayot gueku kestatmu, pues hagu mismu humuchom pettamu.

Haf' ineppen miyu pot ma-utut 25 pot sientu gi pagamienton man-ritirau? Man-daña hamyu muna' kara' i programan man-ritirau; dinanche ennu na cho'chu'?

Haf' na in'sedi ma-implementan Obamacare guine ni humatsa apas insurance hinemlu' 40 pot sientu fuera de kahulu' lokue' apas "deductibles" (pattemu gi 20 pot sientu) yan amot?

Haf' kabales na satbasion inna' guahaye guaguan apas kandet yan hanom?

Ma-utot apas man-ritirau dispues hinegse ni kumahulu' apas insurance hinelo' yan gaige ha' lokue' guaguan apas kandet gi todou banda. Haf' ineppen miyu kumu satbasion este siha na didog yan miseraple na modun gaston linala' 'nai in' pega gi familia siha?

Gi todou atmos banda, administrasion yan lehislatu, ti manlie'yu' dañkulu ma-mueba para uma' ayuda maribahan gaston linala' guine. Guaha lehitimu motibu para in' justifika este na diskuidu? Sin kabales na inatahan gaston linala' 'haf' otu na eskusu guinahan miyu gi halom kestat gangoche?

Che'chu' lanceru

Guaha motibu na huna' sesetbe lanceru kulan espehos gi che'chu' linahyan. Unu, ha planeha todou kinalamteña deste lugat ni para u gualue' yan haf' na simiya para u tanom. Este na patte gi checho'ña

inembrarasa planu. Ti kinebrutu ha tanom simiyan golai 'sino gulu-sina pat otu siha ni gai tiempu estake para u fan makusecha.

Ayu finenina ha petsige tumanom i gelai ni chadeg makusecha yan fahna gi metkau. Deste siboyas hagon, fioles, biriñenas, pe-chai yan fina' Chinese cabbage, mai'es, tumates, abuchuelas, yan sirigiyas.

Ha dimimoria haf' yaña i hotel yan bisitaña yan lokue' i natibu. Estague' 'nai ha tutuhon muan' gasgas yan man-aladu. Ha estira i hos hanom ya ha pega gi sagaña. Ha rikonose abonun kometsiu yan amot pesti siha ni para una setbe. Todou este man-halom gi planuña.

Haf' sustansian este na attikulu? Asuntun planu! Sin satton na planu pues sali ke para maliñgu lamayot patte gi finachucho'mu. Lau 'an un' planeha mauleg siempre areglau lokue' finaposmu gi halom fangualu'an. Parehu yan na nesessidat gi che'chu' linahyan.

Metkau para produktun tanu'

Guaha ha' na man-ma' gasta man-satton yan metton gi peskadot yan lanceru siha. Guaha ha' lokue' para buchin niha de hemunos kau haf' pinadesen i linahyan. Estague' masusede gi alacha ni mamos sumen na 'triste gi dikiki' komunidan iya Marianas. Nahoñg na kastigu kontra i publiku ya ti listuyu' lumie' este marepite.

Rason na hu mente pot dos offisiu sa' klaru na kada basnag i ekonomian i tanu', ensegidas ta falague offisiu lanceria yan tasi. Ke lau guaha gi alacha siha satton na programa man-malagnos pot este na patte gi ekonomian iya Marianas?

Maila' fan tapan diberas umoppe este na kuestion yan manu 'nai gaige kabesan miyu 'nai mañasaunau hamyu fumana' i kada ratu ta repite na finattun mattiempu! Siempre bai' husga yan kinihutu este na attikulu.

Ginen gai bisnis i amiguha mames tuba. Lau deste ke aksidente

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.



empleauña, hana' para sa' mamos dañkulu i obligasion kontra i dididi' na ganansia ni hafatitinas.

Gaige i bahdot tuba gi hilu' troñku. Megai gafo' man-a-akalaye' yan na'gao gi edda'. Mina' yahu tuba sa' mames ya siña ti in' heñgge, tai asukat na gimen. Miyon pot miyon pesos este na industria giya Filipinas. I tiban mames mafa' pedulas asukat ni mabebende Japon piot gi halom man-daibites siha. Huñgan sumen mames lau tai asukat.

Mauleg ta rikonose este na attikulu maseha pot para uson man-daibites guine. Ileghu na yangin ta aligau ayu na fakteria giya Filipinas, siña i gobietnon niha man-ayuda gi inestablese produktu siha ginen tuban mames. Animu ya guaha, siempre u halom este na modun fakteria guine.

■ ■ ■

Guaha mas ke dos sientos na natibu man-makukula haga' niha (daialasis) tres biahe gi semana pot matai reñihion. Un' chetnot na adumididi' sige man-rikohe kulan rimulinon pagyu.

Hu tuñgu' na chetnot daibites tutuhoña este na chetnot lau hafa na asunto gi hinemlu' i malañgu pumupunu' reñihioña? Kau inipos bula asukat, asiga, ma' agsum, mantika pat hafague'? Debi u guaha este na estuidu para benefisiun tautau-ta.

Edward Snowden's weasel ways

Granting Edward Snowden clemency, as many have urged, would send a terrible message to other potential whistle-blowers. Yes, he may have sparked an important national privacy debate, but he did so through reprehensible actions that harmed national security.

If that's a harsh verdict, I have earned the right to it. In terms of sheer media hype, I was the Snowden of my day, a disaffected ex-spy who, in the late 1970s and early '80s, rocked the security community by publishing a memoir about intelligence failures I'd witnessed as a CIA officer during the last years of the Vietnam War. I did so only after the agency backhanded my repeated requests for an in-house review of our mistakes and refused to help me or anyone else rescue Vietnamese allies abandoned during the evacuation of Saigon.

Government prosecutors never accused me of betraying classified secrets. But in 1980, the Supreme Court decided that I had "irreparably harmed" national security by publishing my book without official approval, in violation of CIA nondisclosure agreements. This, the court said, harmed the government's ability to prevent serious leaks.

The ruling left me destitute, stigmatized and gagged for life, required to clear with the CIA all my spy-related writings, including this one, with the threat of jail time if I screw up. The First Amendment also took a hit with the rulings in my case. Now, all intelligence alumni, Snowden included, can be severely punished for merely speaking out about their work, regardless of whether what they say contains any classified information.

Yet, for all that I suffered personally, I never ran or tried to hide. And when the time came to face the music, I never bargained for mercy. I simply took my lumps, accepting them as the price we pay in a democracy for the right to speak out.

Snowden has violated these precepts. He argues lamely that he decided not to raise his privacy concerns through "official channels" because of harsh treatment he'd received from a superior in 2009 for hacking into his own encrypted personnel files. He says he was turned off by the legal system because whistle-blowing cases have not gone well for defendants.

I could have told him that. Honest whistle-blowing is a blood sport, the only reward for which is knowing you tried to do the right thing.

Snowden also insists defensively that he doesn't want to hurt vital intelligence programs. Yet even his favored media outlets—Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*—have withheld, out of concern for national security, some of the stolen documents he considered appropriate for release.

He claims his only concern is for privacy. But many of his leaks,

like those exposing National Security Agency operations against Chinese targets, and those involving critics and allies in Europe and Latin America, have nothing to do with 4th Amendment protections for American citizens and everything to do with ingratiating himself with potential benefactors, from Beijing to Moscow.



By FRANK SNEPP

Los Angeles Times

Frank Snepp, a Peabody Award-winning journalist, has written two CIA memoirs. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



Had he read though his stolen documents, moreover, he would have realized that Russia and China are as aggressive as anyone on the planet in attacking our digital firewalls. If he were to cripple the NSA, which seems to be his real purpose, he would simply be sabotaging our defenses against governments that abhor our constitutional values, including privacy rights.

Equally troubling, Snowden has abdicated moral responsibility by handing off much of what he stole to Laura Poitras, a freelance journalist, and Glenn Greenwald, formerly of the *Guardian*, and allowing them to decide what should be published. Greenwald says encrypted copies also have been given to other parties and that, if something happens to Snowden, "all the information will be revealed and it could be (the government's) worst nightmare."

One problem with the reporting by Greenwald and Poitras has been that, in relying so heavily on the documents supplied by Snowden, it fails to provide context. From reading their stories, for example, you'd know little about official steps to minimize NSA privacy threats.

Yet as we have learned from other recent disclosures—largely official counter-leaks—the secret court created in 1978 to police NSA programs has been working diligently, if too secretly, to fulfill its mission.






Last May, Snowden told the *Washington Post* that he intended to seek asylum and that he "wanted to embolden others to step forward ... by showing that they can win." His statement wasn't a paean to accountability but a Pied Piper's manifesto aimed at tempting others into heisting and fencing official secrets in the belief they'd never have to answer for it.

Ironically, the very enormity of Snowden's security breach could now help him realize this goal. After trying for months to determine how much damage he has done, one senior NSA official stated recently that he favors executive clemency for Snowden in exchange for his help in identifying and retrieving all the secrets he has stolen. If the president buys into this bargain, it will simply signal to all aspiring copycats that if you steal enough secrets to blackmail the government, you have nothing to fear.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 80

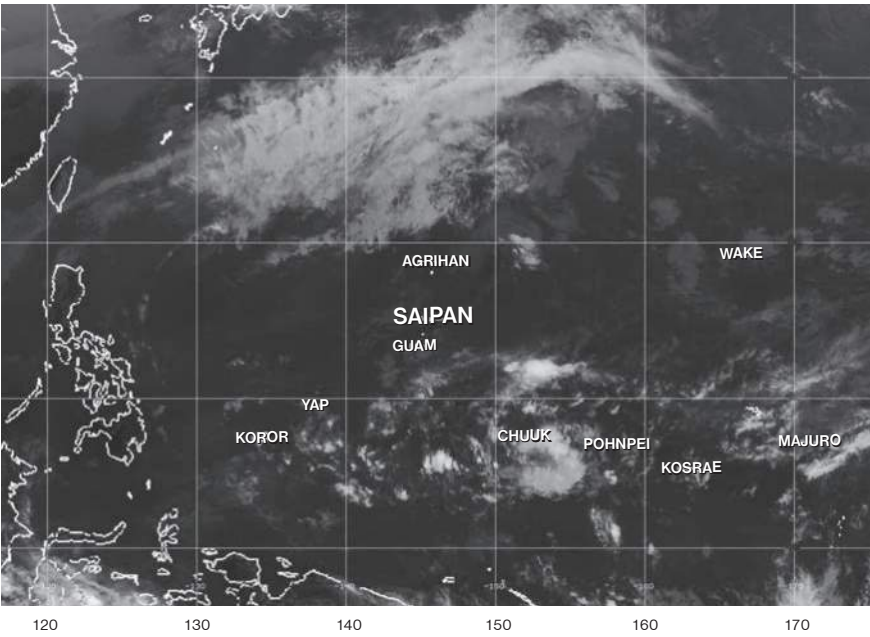
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71 ▼ 63
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 41 ▼ 22
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▼ 65
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 75 ▼ 70
London	Rain	▲ 47 ▼ 42
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 45
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 63
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 73
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 37 ▼ 33
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 34
Paris	Showers	▲ 49 ▼ 41
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 41 ▼ 33
Rome	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 49
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 22
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 43
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 32 ▼ 21
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 44 ▼ 29
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 34

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
4:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:03 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
5:40 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
11:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging southwest winds ahead of a cold front near Okinawa are generating scattered showers west of Iwo To island north of a line from 25N145E to 20N130E. A near equatorial trough stretches east-southeastward from 4N130E through a weak circulation centered at 3N149E to the equator at 156E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found across Chuuk and Yap states plus the Republic of Palau between 3N and 10N from 132E to 157E. Trade-wind disturbances are generating three areas of scattered showers. The first is southeast of the Marianas between 9N and 13N from 146E to 156E. The second is east of the far Northern Marianas between 18N and 22N from 147E to 155E. The third is east of the Marshall Islands between 7N and 13N from 173E to 180 and beyond.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:46 AM	6:16 PM
Wednesday	6:45 AM	6:17 PM
Thursday	6:45 AM	6:17 PM
Friday	6:45 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:53 AM	10:33 PM
Wednesday	10:38 AM	11:27 PM
Thursday	11:23 AM	
Friday	12:09 PM	12:20 AM
Saturday	12:55 PM	1:11 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 25, 2014

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5039 1:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5038 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 (will increase eff Jan 29) OZ104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily OZ103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6 (will increase eff Jan 29)
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:00am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:20pm 3:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:00am 10:55pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:30pm 5 via Guam UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Guam UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:45am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 7 via Guam UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
SAIPAN-TIANJIN (TSN) D2884 10:45am 2:45pm Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24	TIANJIN (TSN)-SAIPAN D2885 4:45pm 12:20am+1 Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH) D2880 4:30pm 8:00pm Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27	HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN D2881 10:00pm 5:15am+1 Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27
SAIPAN-WUHAN (WUH) D2882 11:00am 3:15pm Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26	WUHAN (WUH)-SAIPAN D2883 5:15pm 12:20am+1 Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

China faces obstacles on road to consumer society

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Workers must define jobs if bosses don't

QUESTION: I don't know how to resolve a conflict with my co-worker. "Kay" and I both handle marketing activities for a large medical practice. Marketing was part of my job for many years until Kay was hired about a year ago. The physicians told us to collaborate because she had professional marketing experience, while I was familiar with the practice.

Initially, Kay and I worked well together, but after awhile she seemed irritated by my marketing questions. I decided to stop bothering her and continue doing what I had always done. We remained friendly, but focused on our own individual projects.

The problem began when the physicians scheduled a marketing meeting. When I mentioned that I planned to show a PowerPoint that I had created for one of the doctors, Kay got upset and told me this wasn't appropriate. She said we should coordinate our presentations and accused me of trying to make her look stupid.

We managed to act normal during the meeting, but now we're barely speaking. The doctors have clearly stated that we're supposed to work together, so how can we fix this mess?

ANSWER: This is a classic case of role confusion, which is a frequent cause of workplace conflict. On the surface, these disagreements look like personality problems, but they actually result from vague and ambiguous work assignments. While employees are often blamed for the resulting tension, the real culprit is ineffective management.

After flying solo for years, you were suddenly told to collaborate with a co-worker, but no one bothered to differentiate your responsibilities. When these overlapping jobs created predictable friction, you avoided each other until circumstances forced you into a joint presentation. At that point, your different approaches suddenly collided.

Since doctors are typically not great managers, you and Kay should call a truce and agree to solve this problem on your own. Start by identifying all the marketing tasks, then determine the best way to share them. Given your complementary areas of expertise, you will be much more effective together than either of you would alone.

Q: A few days ago, I accidentally sent my boss an email meant for my husband. Because I was very frustrated, I called her an idiot and said some other unflattering things. She has not mentioned receiving this message. Should I apologize or just forget about it?

A: Since your boss is likely to read any communication from her staff, you can probably assume that she's seen your email rant. And unless she has incredibly thick skin, odds are that she's feeling hurt and offended. Expressing contrition may not erase the problem, but it might reduce the emotional damage.

For example: "Last week, I mistakenly sent you an email meant for my husband. Because I'd had a tough day, I was venting my frustrations and made some negative comments about you, which I truly regret. I hope you can disregard my stupid statements, because I really do value our working relationship."

To avoid future email catastrophes, remember these precautions: Never insult anyone in writing, and always check the "to" line before hitting send.

BEIJING (AP)—Business should be picking up for Zhao Guoping, a Beijing shopkeeper, as Chinese leaders try to build a consumer society to replace a worn-out economic model based on trade and investment. But his financial struggle highlights the hurdles that ambitious effort faces.

Squeezed by higher costs and weak sales to budget-minded shoppers, Zhao said the income from his neighborhood shop has fallen by half to 50,000 yuan (\$6,000) a year.

"Prices are rocketing up. People's incomes can hardly catch up," said Zhao, 38. "Daily necessities, yes, I still have to buy them. But anything I don't necessarily need, then no."

The reluctance of Zhao and his customers to open their wallets wider is one of a thicket of obstacles facing communist leaders as they try to rebalance China's economy away from reliance on investment, a big share of which comes from the government and is losing its ability to boost growth.

The government is walking a fine line, however, as an abrupt shift in the economy could hurt growth, with consequences not just for the country but the global economy. China's economic importance was laid bare last month, when a report showing a drop in manufacturing activity caused turmoil on world markets.

Combined with an export boom, a flood of spending on new factories, highways and other assets powered the past decade of explosive growth. That helped China rebound quickly from the 2008 global crisis. But it was paid for with a surge in borrowing that economists warn looks like debt booms in other developing countries that spiraled into financial crises.

WASHINGTON (AP)—United Airlines said Saturday it will drop its money-losing hub in Cleveland, slashing its daily flights and eliminating 470 jobs.

The company's CEO Jeff Smisek announced in a letter to employees that the airline will no longer use Cleveland to connect fliers coming from other airports around the country. As a result, United's daily departures from the city will fall from 199 currently to 72 by June.

"Our hub in Cleveland hasn't been profitable for over a decade, and has generated tens of millions of dollars of annual losses in recent years," Smisek states. "We



A woman walks with her granddaughter by a shop with an advertising mascot while a man, left, waits for customers at the entrance to a restaurant on a shopping street in Beijing Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014.

As urgency for change mounts, so do potential hurdles. Consumer spending accounts for only about 35 percent of gross domestic product, well below neighboring India's 60 percent, and that percentage declined last year. Curbs on investment will mean less money flows to wages in construction and building materials industries such as steel and cement.

"It is a pretty narrow path that policymakers have to push the economy along," said Mark Williams, chief Asia economist for Capital Economics. "The risk is that if investment spending slows too much, then that starts to undermine consumer spending and you get a downward spiral."

Forecasts of this year's growth range from 7 to 8 percent, far ahead of the United States and Europe but down from China's

double-digit rates of the past decade. Last year's 7.7 percent growth tied with 2012 for the weakest performance in two decades. And it hit that only after the government launched a mini-stimulus in mid-2013 with more spending on building new railways and other public works.

The impact of a government clampdown on lending and construction is showing in slower economic activity, raising the risk of politically difficult job losses.

A survey by HSBC Corp. found manufacturers cut jobs in January at their fastest rate in five years. Profits at China's biggest companies grew in December at their slowest rate in nine months. Growth in factory output and retail sales weakened, suggesting that the quarter's headline growth of 7.7 percent might

mask a deepening downturn.

Moves to encourage consumer spending are part of a marathon effort by the Communist Party to transform China from a low-wage factory into a high-income creator of technology with self-sustaining economic growth.

A broad-strokes plan issued by the party leadership in November promises to give entrepreneurs who generate most of China's new jobs and wealth more access to state-dominated industries.

Regulators announced last month that they will allow the creation of five privately financed banks this year. The government has announced plans for a dozen new free-trade zones in Shanghai and other cities with promises of easier restrictions on business.

But such changes will take time to show results.

United Airlines drops Cleveland as hub airport

WASHINGTON (AP)—United Airlines said Saturday it will drop its money-losing hub in Cleveland, slashing its daily flights and eliminating 470 jobs.

The company's CEO Jeff Smisek announced in a letter to employees that the airline will no longer use Cleveland to connect fliers coming from other airports around the country. As a result, United's daily departures from the city will fall from 199 currently to 72 by June.

"Our hub in Cleveland hasn't been profitable for over a decade, and has generated tens of millions of dollars of annual losses in recent years," Smisek states. "We

simply cannot continue to bear these losses."

United said in November that it aims to cut \$2 billion in annual costs in the coming year by shifting flights, making workers more productive, and improving its maintenance procedures.

Similar cutbacks have affected many other small hubs in cities such as Memphis, Cincinnati and Salt Lake City amid a wave of airline mergers over the last five years.

Because it's hard to fill a plane between, say, Indianapolis and Paris, airlines use hubs like Cleveland to gather passengers and connect them to the flights

they want. People who live in a hub city get a wider selection of destinations because their airport has more flights than it would if it was limited to the flights supported by local traffic.

Cleveland was a hub for Continental when it merged with United in 2010 to form United Continental Holdings Inc. Ever since the merger, people in the industry have assumed it was in danger of losing its hub status, because the airline now has United's Midwestern hub in Chicago.

"Ever since the merger everyone knew this was a risk, which is why economic development

officials for the city, the region and the state have discussed options with United for keeping its presence in Cleveland," Ohio Gov. John Kasich said. "This is a disappointing decision and one we disagree with, but a point that United stressed is that demand for air travel from Cleveland remains strong and that they're maintaining virtually all of their flights to and from major markets."

In June, Delta Air Lines Inc. announced it would be closing its Memphis hub, which it had inherited in its 2008 acquisition of Northwest Airlines. Delta already has a huge hub operation in Atlanta.

Companies back fast Internet-in-schools initiative

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House says it's lined up private support for President Barack Obama's pledge to connect 15,000 schools and 20 million students with high-speed Internet service over the next few years.

A White House education event Tuesday will focus on his ConnectED initiative.

Chief of staff Denis McDonough, tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that companies are going to commit more than a half-bil-

lion dollars so schools have the technology for students to "compete in this economy."

The Education Department says about 80 percent of schools have Internet capabilities that are too slow or limited to places such as

front offices and computer labs. Obama says American schools are falling behind those in other countries with better broadband access.

The Federal Communications Commission is considering ways to increase connectivity in schools.

Nation

Immigrant reform might raise price of citizenship

EDINBURG, Texas (AP)—Hilda Vasquez squirreled away the money for her U.S. citizenship application by selling batches of homemade tamales at South Texas offices. Carmen Zalazar picked up extra babysitting jobs at night after caring for kids all day in Houston.

The women scrimped and saved for months to pay for the \$680 application, but for other applicants in the future, it might not be enough.

As President Barack Obama renews his quest for immigration reform, some proposals would impose fines of \$2,000 on top of application fees, making the financial hurdles much taller for people who are here illegally.

"You have more rights when you are a citizen, like to vote," said Zalazar, a legal resident. As soon as she started a citizenship class, "I started to save because I knew otherwise it won't be possible."

The struggle is familiar to millions of immigrants. A 2012 survey by the Pew Hispanic Center showed that only 46 percent of Hispanic immigrants eligible to become citizens had done so. The top two reasons were lack of English skills and lack of money to pay for the application.

Manuel Enrique Angel made learning English his first priority upon arriving in Houston from his native El Salvador two years ago. He now speaks English clearly and deliberately and plans to apply for citizenship as soon as he becomes eligible later this year.

Trained as a lawyer in El Sal-



Manuel Enrique Angel, 28, of El Salvador, poses in Houston Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013.

vador, the 28-year-old works as a cook in a Houston burger joint. His wife, an American citizen, is a hair stylist. He estimates it will take him up to eight months to save the money for the citizenship application.

"It's really hard when you have to pay rent around \$600, when you have car notes for \$300 and \$500," Angel said.

Republican supporters of the proposed fines say penalties are necessary to defend against any appearance that

creating a pathway to citizenship amounts to amnesty.

Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, a Washington-based think tank that supports tighter immigration controls, said if immigrants who are in the country illegally are allowed to seek citizenship, they should have to pay the costs, which will increase if millions of applications need to be processed.

However, he said, the costs should not be so high that peo-

ple can't afford them.

"It's stupid to price people out of the market," Krikorian said.

Angel plans to take advantage of a program at a Houston credit union that offers small low-interest loans specifically to help clients become citizens. The Promise Credit Union partners with Neighborhood Centers Inc., a nonprofit network of community centers in the Houston area that cater to immigrants.

Credit union President Randy Martinez said the program be-

The credit union's \$455 loans include \$380 toward the citizenship process plus a \$75 processing fee for the loan application. They carry a fixed 5 percent interest rate for a 12-month term, so the monthly payments work out to about \$38.

Applicants must contribute \$300 of their own money. They are all pre-screened by the Neighborhood Centers legal team to make sure they qualify for citizenship and have all the necessary documentation.

The credit union has already discussed expanding the loans if Congress approves a reform package that offers people in the country illegally a costlier path to citizenship, Martinez said.

An immigration reform bill passed by the Senate in June did not set the costs of the proposed 13-year path to citizenship. Lawmakers left that up to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, with the idea that fees would make the system self-sustaining.

While the fees remain unspecified, the Senate bill lays out penalties totaling \$2,000 to be paid at various steps along the way. The legislation would create a new status called "registered provisional immigrant" and require anyone with that status to pay taxes.

California farmers brace for drought, unemployment

MENDOTA, Calif. (AP)—Amid California's driest year on record, the nation's leading agricultural region is locked in drought and bracing for unemployment to soar, sending farm workers to food lines in a place famous for its abundance.

One-third of the Central Valley's jobs are related to farming. Strains on water supplies are expected to force farmers to leave fields unplanted, creating a ripple effect on food processing plant workers, truck drivers and those who sell fertilizer, irrigation equipment and tractors.

No place may be harder hit than Mendota, a small farm town where unemployment rose above 40 percent at the height of the economic recession in 2009, also a dry year. Mayor Robert Silva said he fears this year could be even worse.

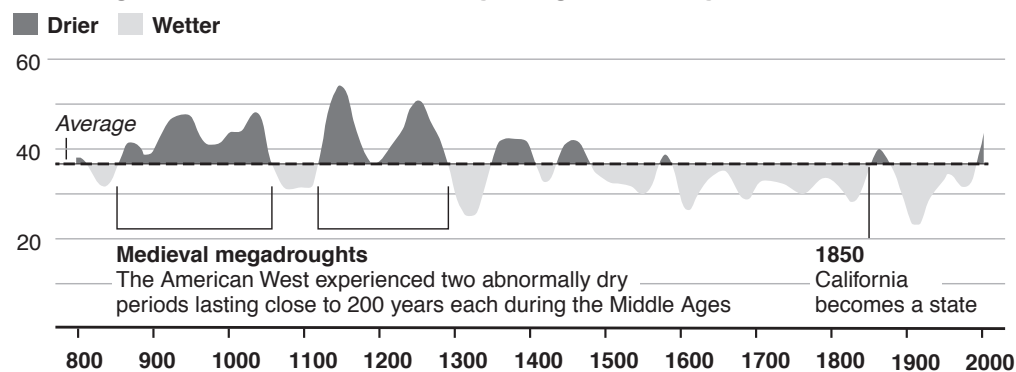
"We're supposed to be the cantaloupe capital of the world," Silva said. "But we're the food line capital of the world."

Residents of Mendota late last year began seeing tough times on the horizon when little rain fell in the valley and snow didn't blanket the High Sierra.

A 200-year drought?

Evidence from tree rings in the American West shows that drought was historically much more widespread in the distant past than now. The 20th century was wetter than normal.

Percentage of American West affected by drought from the year 800 to 2000



Source: E.R. Cook et al, Earth-Science Reviews
Graphic: Karl Kahler, Bay Area News Group

© 2014 MCT

This marks the third consecutive dry year for California, and Gov. Jerry Brown has declared a drought emergency.

This past week, the snow pack's water content was measured at 12 percent of normal. State officials announced that they would not be sending water to California's agricultural customers. U.S. officials are expected in late February to announce they will allot only a fraction of

the federally controlled water that farmers want, if any.

If that scenario plays out, Silva estimates the lines they saw outside a Mendota food bank five years ago could run three times as long this year. His town's unemployment today is at 34 percent—the highest in Fresno County—and interim City Manager Don Pauley figures it will top 50 percent.

Officials at Mendota's City

Hall aren't the only uneasy ones. Steve Malanca, general manager at Thomason Tractor in Firebaugh, said farmers have already told him that digging deeper wells and buying irrigation water are higher priorities in 2014 than investing in new farm equipment from him. With reduced work in the fields, Malanca said it's clear he will have to lay off some of his 49 employees.

gan as a pilot in 2012 and only officially started last fall.

"We don't want that to become an obstacle for them not to become citizens, just because they don't have the entire fee to pay," he said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police in California detain dead 3-year-old's mom

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—A Northern California woman wanted for questioning in the death of her 3-year-old daughter was detained along with her boyfriend Sunday at a San Francisco Bay Area commuter train station and turned over to authorities who are investigating the child's death as a homicide, police said. Sara Krueger, 23, and her boyfriend, Scott Warner, 26, were arrested without incident at a Bay Area Rapid Transit station in the city of El Cerrito. Detectives from the Napa Police Department had been trying to locate the couple since Krueger's daughter was found dead in her bed by officers conducting a child welfare check on Saturday afternoon. The child, whom police have not yet named, showed signs of having been sexually assaulted and blunt force trauma, Napa police Lt. Debbie Peacock said.

Report: US abortion rate at lowest since 1973

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. abortion rate declined to its lowest level since 1973, and the number of abortions fell by 13 percent between 2008 and 2011, according to the latest national survey of abortion providers conducted by a prominent research institute. The Guttmacher Institute, which supports legal access to abortion, said in a report being issued Monday that there were about 1.06 million abortions in 2011—down from about 1.2 million in 2008. According to the report, the abortion rate dropped to 16.9 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15-44 in 2011, well below the peak of 29.3 in 1981 and the lowest since a rate of 16.3 in 1973.

Man charged in shooting at off-campus Mich. attack

BIG RAPIDS, Mich. (AP)—Michigan authorities announced Sunday they have charged a 20-year-old man with shooting a Ferris State University student at his off-campus apartment, while police continued searching for a man they say killed one Michigan State University student and wounded another near that school. DeCory D. Downing is charged with attempted murder and having a firearm in a felony, said Ferris State University Public Safety Director Bruce Borkovich. Downing is from Macomb County in suburban Detroit, isn't a student at Ferris State and has an "extensive criminal record," Borkovich told MLive.com. Downing was being held in the Mecosta County Jail and expected to be arraigned Monday in district court.

Asia

Thai elections peaceful, but crisis far from over

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand held nationwide elections without bloodshed Sunday despite widespread fears of violence. But the country's bitter political crisis is far from over, and one of the next flash points is likely to be an effort to nullify the vote.

Although balloting was largely peaceful, protesters forced thousands of polling booths to close in Bangkok and the south, disenfranchising millions of registered voters. Not all Parliament seats will be filled as a result, meaning the nation could stay mired in political limbo for months with the winning party unable to form a new government.

The struggle to hold the vote was part of a 3-month-old conflict that has split the country between supporters of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and protesters who allege her government is too corrupt to rule.

The crisis, in which demonstrators have occupied major intersections across Bangkok and forced government ministries to shut down and work elsewhere, overshadowed the poll's run-up to such an extent that campaigning and stump speeches laying out party platforms were virtually nonexistent.

Rather than "a contest among candidates, it was

about whether the election itself could happen," said Sunai Phasuk of Human Rights Watch. "That in itself says a lot about the fate of democracy in Thailand—it's hanging by a thread."

Television stations, which normally broadcast electoral results, were reduced to projecting graphics not of party victories and losses, but of which constituencies were open or closed.

Official results cannot be announced until a series of by-elections are held and all districts have voted. The first will take place Feb. 23.

In Bangkok, protesters surrounded government offices housing ballot papers, preventing them from being delivered. They also pressured electoral officials not to report for duty, and in some cases physically preventing people from voting.

Infuriated voters cut the chains off polling stations that had been locked, futilely demanding that they be allowed to cast ballots. In one downtown district, they hurled bottles at each other and one demonstrator fired a gunshot after several people tried to push past a blockade. After authorities called off voting there, angry crowds stormed into the district office.

"We want an election. We

are Thais," said Narong Meephol, a 63-year-old Bangkok resident who was waving his voter identification card. "We are here to exercise our rights."

Ampai Pittajit, 65, a retired civil servant who helped block ballot boxes in Bangkok, said she did it "because I want reforms before an election."

"I understand those who are saying this is violating their rights," he said. "But what about our right to be heard?"

The Election Commission said poll closures affected about 18 percent of the country's 48 million registered voters, although many of them may not have cast ballots anyway following a boycott by the opposition Democrat party,

which is calling for political and economic reform first.

The protesters want to suspend democracy and are demanding the government be replaced by an unelected council that would rewrite political and electoral laws to combat deep-seated problems of corruption and money politics. Yingluck has refused to step down, arguing she is open to reform and such a council would be unconstitutional.

Yingluck called Sunday's vote after dissolving Parliament in December in a failed bid to defuse the crisis. Protests intensified, and Yingluck—now a caretaker premier with limited power—has found herself increasingly cor-

nered. Courts have begun fast-tracking cases that could see her party removed from power, while the army has warned it could intervene if the crisis is not resolved peacefully.

Fears of violence Sunday rose after a dramatic gunbattle erupted in broad daylight Saturday at a major Bangkok intersection between government supporters and protesters who were trying to block delivery of ballots. Seven people were wounded.

Late Sunday, gunmen opened fire on several vehicles that mistakenly drove onto an empty overpass in the city center controlled by demonstrators who have blocked the road off with a large sand-bagged bunker. The shooting, which

shattered one vehicle's windshield and left bullet holes in another, wounded a man and a woman, according to the city's emergency services.

The protesters are a minority that cannot win through elections, but they comprise a formidable alliance of opposition leaders, royalists, and powerful businessmen who have set their sights on ousting the government. They have waged that fight successfully before—by ousting Yingluck's brother, former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, in a 2006 army coup, and by forcing two Thaksin-allied prime ministers who followed to step down through controversial legal rulings.

Death toll rises to 16 from Indonesia volcano



Mount Sinabung releases pyroclastic flows during an eruption as seen from Namantan, North Sumatra, Indonesia, Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014. AP

MOUNT SINABUNG, Indonesia (AP)—The death toll from an Indonesian volcano that has been rumbling for months rose to 16 Sunday after rescuers found another charred corpse and a critically injured college student died in a hospital, officials said.

Mount Sinabung erupted again Saturday just a day after authorities allowed thousands of villagers who had been evacuated to return to its slopes, saying volcanic activity was decreasing. Rescuers found 14 bodies and rescued three people with burn wounds, said National Disaster

Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho.

Rescue efforts resumed Sunday and rescuers found another body about three kilometers (two miles) from the volcano's peak, said Lt. Col. Asep Sukarna, who led the operation. Another resident, a 24-year-old college student died in an intensive care unit, said an official at the Efarina Etaham hospital.

Among the dead were a local television journalist and four high-school students and their teacher who were visiting the mountain to see the eruptions up close, Nugroho

said. At least three other people were injured and authorities fear the death toll will rise.

Sinabung in western Sumatra has been erupting for four months. Authorities had evacuated more than 30,000 people, housing them in cramped tents, schools and public buildings, but many were desperate to return to check on homes and farms.

On Friday, authorities allowed nearly 14,000 people living outside a five-kilometer (three-mile) danger zone to return after believing volcanic activity had decreased. Others living close to the peak have

been returning to their homes over the past four months despite the dangers.

On Saturday, a series of huge blasts and eruptions thundered from the 2,600-meter (8,530-foot) volcano. Television footage showed villages, farms and trees covered in thick gray ash.

Indonesia is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin. Mount Sinabung is among about 130 active volcanoes in Indonesia and has sporadically erupted since September.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NKorea agrees to hold talks on family reunions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea said Monday that North Korea had agreed to hold talks on arranging reunions of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War for the first time in more than three years. North Korea last month agreed to restart the reunions and asked South Korea to pick the date. Seoul subsequently chose Feb. 17-22 and proposed working-level talks to discuss details about the reunions. But Pyongyang hadn't responded for a week, drawing complaints from Seoul officials. Breaking its weeklong silence, North Korea on Monday sent a message proposing the talks take place either on Wednesday or Thursday at a border village and let South Korea choose the date, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry.

Afghan presidential election campaign kicks off

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Campaigning officially opened Sunday in Afghanistan's presidential election, with 11 candidates vying to succeed President Hamid Karzai in polls seen as a crucial test of whether the coun-

try can ensure a stable political transition. The April 5 presidential vote will be held in a climate of uncertainty as NATO combat forces ready their withdrawal at the end of 2014. If successful, the election will usher in the first handover from one elected president to another in Afghan history. Security is a major concern in the election, as is potential fraud after allegations of vote-rigging marred the 2009 polls.

Japanese whalers, protesters clash off Antarctica

SYDNEY (AP)—A Japanese whaling ship and a protest boat have collided in the remote, icy seas off Antarctica, and both sides are blaming each other for the crash. No one was injured in Sunday's collision, though both ships received minor damage. Protest group Sea Shepherd said the whaling vessels got too close to their ships and crashed into their boat, the Bob Barker. Japan says the Bob Barker got too close to their whaling ship. Sea Shepherd said the Bob Barker's bow and anchor were damaged, and Japan said their ship received damage to a railing and its hull.

World

Syrian air raids kill at least 36 in Aleppo

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian government helicopters and warplanes unleashed a wave of airstrikes on more than a dozen opposition-held neighborhoods in the northern city of Aleppo on Sunday, firing missiles and dropping crude barrel bombs in a ferocious attack that killed at least 36 people, including 17 children, activists said.

Aleppo has been a key battleground in Syria's civil war since rebels swept into the city in mid-2012 and wrested most of the eastern and southern neighborhoods from the government. Since then, the fighting has settled into a bloody grind, with neither side capable of mounting an offensive that would expel its opponents from the city.

But over the past two months, President Bashar Assad's air force has ramped up its aerial campaign on rebel-held areas of Aleppo, pounding them with barrel bombs—containers packed with explosives, fuel and scraps of metal—that cause massive damage on impact.

On Sunday alone, Syrian military aircraft targeted 15 opposition-controlled neighborhoods, said an activist who goes by the name of Abu al-Hassan Marea.

The Britain-based Syrian



AP
Opposition demonstrators carry posters of imprisoned protesters during a protest rally in Moscow, Russia, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014.

Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said the Tariq al-Bab district on the eastern edge of the city was the hardest-hit, with at least eight barrel bombs raining down on it Sunday. Marea said one of the air raids in the neighborhood struck a vegetable market and another landed near a mosque.

The Aleppo Media Center ac-

tivist group said the strike near the Abdullah bin Masoud Mosque killed more than 10 people.

The Observatory put the day's death toll in the air raids at 36, including 17 children. Marea said that more than 50 people were killed in the airstrikes, although he did not have an exact count.

An amateur video posted online showed a helicopter cir-

cling in the blue sky, and then a barrel plummeting from the aircraft until it slams into buildings on the horizon, sending a pillar of smoke and dust into the air. The video appeared genuine and corresponded to other Associated Press reporting of the events depicted.

This is not the first time that Assad's air force has waged an

intense campaign over Aleppo. In December, military helicopters pounded rebel-held districts of the city with barrel bombs, leveling buildings, burying people under the rubble and killing more than 500 people over a two-week stretch.

The misery in Aleppo was then compounded in early January by an outburst of rebel-on-rebel fighting, which has weakened the opposition's grip on parts of the city.

Over the past two weeks, Assad's forces have slowly chipped away at the rebels' hold on neighborhoods in southeastern Aleppo. While the advances have been small, they still mark the most significant government gains in the divided city since opposition fighters seized the areas in mid-2012.

As intense as the airstrikes have been, the rebels' position in the city and across northern Syria

has been undermined to a greater degree by the bloody bout of infighting that pits the al-Qaida-linked Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant against an array of ultraconservative brigades and more moderate factions.

The rebel clashes have killed more than 1,400 people since they began a month ago, and the fighting shows little sign of coming to an immediate close.

On Saturday, a twin suicide bombing killed 26 people, including a senior military commander of the Tawhid Brigade, a prominent rebel group opposed to the Islamic State.

The attack, widely blamed by both pro- and anti-al-Qaida activists on the Islamic State, targeted the base of its rivals in the Tawhid Brigade and killed senior leader Adnan Bakkour, said Observatory director Rami Abdurrahman.

The Islamic State also killed another prominent commander, Abu Hussein al-Dik of Suqour al-Sham, on Saturday near the central city of Hama, the Observatory said.

Thousands of anti-Putin protesters march in Moscow



AP
Opposition demonstrators carry posters of imprisoned protesters during a protest rally in Moscow, Russia, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014.

MOSCOW (AP)—Several thousand protesters marched through central Moscow on Sunday to call for the release of 20 people who were arrested after clashes between police and demonstrators in May 2012.

Some of them face up to 10 years in prison if convicted for the protest, held on Bolotnaya Square on the eve of President Vladimir Putin's inauguration to a third term as Russia's

president.

Putin's return to the presidency saw the passing of new laws aimed at cracking down on anti-government protests and restricting non-governmental organizations.

The protesters marched Sunday with portraits of the jailed protesters and a banner stretching across the street reading: "Freedom to the Bolotnaya heroes, the hostages of Putin."

Some also carried Ukrainian flags to show their support for the anti-government protesters in neighboring Ukraine, where demonstrations have been going on for more than two months.

Of the 28 people rounded up in the Bolotnaya case, eight were recently freed on amnesty. Several defendants have been under house arrest, but most of the others have been in jail for more than a year and a half.

Only three of the cases have been decided: Two defendants received light sentences after cooperating with investigators and a third was sent for forced psychiatric treatment. That man, Mikhail Kosenko, who was convicted of beating a policeman, had a history of schizophrenia, but rights activists charged the court was reviving the Soviet-era practice of using punitive psychiatry against dissidents.

Ukrainian president to end sick leave Monday

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine's president will return Monday from a short sick leave that had sparked a guessing game he was taking himself out of action in preparation to step down or for a crackdown on widespread anti-government protests.

Viktor Yanukovich's office made the announcement about the president's return the same day as protesters seeking his resignation held one of their largest gatherings in recent weeks. About 20,000 people assembled at the main protest site in Kiev's central square on Sunday.

Yanukovich's sick leave was announced Thursday, with his office saying he had an acute respiratory illness. Some opposition leaders were skeptical about it, however, and thought Yanukovich was disappearing from the limelight in preparation for imposing a state of emergency amid the deepest turmoil in Ukraine since the Orange Revolution in 2004-2005.

The protests, which are heading into a third month, began in late November after Yanukovich backed away from a long-awaited agreement to deepen ties with the European Union. They quickly grew to encompass a wide range of grievances after police violently dispersed some of the early gatherings.

During Yanukovich's sick leave, a sense of stasis set in and neither side showed signs of movement. But his return to work could bring new action.

"Repression works in reverse. More people are coming to Maidan," said demonstrator Tamara Tribko, using the abbreviated name of the square where an extensive tent camp has been established since early December.

Top opposition figures spoke to the rally to urge supporters to push forward with their demands. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, one of the protest leaders, emphasized the importance of obtaining the release of all people arrested during the protests.

"We must free all," Yatsenyuk said, adding that there were 116 people being held. "Freedom to every hero."

Yanukovich's sick leave was announced the morning after the parliament voted to offer amnesty to many of those arrested during protests on the condition that demonstrators vacate some of the buildings they occupy in Kiev and government buildings elsewhere in the country.

The measure was greeted with disdain by protesters, who characterized it as the government essentially taking hostages and then using them to try to negotiate concessions. Kiev's city hall, which protesters have seized, is being used as an operations center and dormitory key to supporting the extensive protester tent camp on the nearby Independence Square.

Another protest leader, former heavyweight boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, showed that opposition hopes for cooperation from abroad are high.

"The crisis will end at last when under the auspices of the international community we will hold new elections that will stop the regime of Yanukovich," he said.

On Tuesday, parliament is expected to consider reforms to the constitution that would reduce some presidential powers and allot them to the prime minister. Yanukovich last week accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, but hasn't appointed a new one.

Focus

ASHBURN, Va. (AP)—The wealthiest county in America is settled deep in 4am slumber when Neal Breen threads the mini-mansion subdivisions and snow-blanketed fairways on his way to open shop.

There's two hours yet before the business day begins, but Breen, who is 21, has plenty to do after flipping on the lights. Donning a green apron without taking off his tweed cap, he boils the first of more than 500 bagels, then shovels them into a waiting oven. When the early risers step from their cars at a few minutes past 6, a chalkboard meets them at the door: "Breakfast of Champions."

Breen, who quit college a year ago with hopes of saving money to start his own business, is keenly aware that the wealth in the neighborhoods where he delivers breakfast sandwiches is, for now, beyond reach. He's long known what it means to have less; he recalls growing up as the son of a pastor whose earnings sometimes made it tough to feed five children. But he does not decry the gap between the Vienna sausage dinners of childhood and the \$168,000 median income of the households surrounding this shopping center, about 35 miles from Capitol Hill.

It just confirms that the free-market economy is working, Breen says, by rewarding those who do for themselves.

"Capitalism is about seizing opportunity. A lot of people get more opportunities than others, but a lot of people aren't comfortable seizing it," he says.

When President Barack Obama promised to do something about growing economic inequality in his State of the Union address, he spoke to a public whose own experiences have, like Breen's, shaped very personal views about who makes it in today's economy and who gets left behind.

"Those at the top have never done better. But average wages have barely budged. Inequality has deepened. ... Our job is to reverse these trends," Obama said.

The speech addressed deeply held convictions: Americans know firsthand the challenges of trying to get ahead, and sometimes just getting by, and speak reverently about making sure the country fulfills its promise as a land of economic opportunity.

But in a reporter's conversations along a drive of more than 400 miles, from communities of wealth to those of poverty, from areas where politics increasingly lean Democratic to those fast tilting Republican, there was little agreement on how to realize that ideal or on what role government should play.

In a college town, a retired elementary school principal whose uneducated father toiled in citrus groves says in this technological age, it's harder to rise from poverty.

In a faded railroad town along West Virginia's New River, a young barber is grateful for the programs that helped him pay for training and put food on his table until he found work, but he's skeptical about people who abuse such aid.

"It's a conundrum," says Chris Meyer, the owner of a landscaping business, leaving Ashburn Bagel & Sandwich Shop, breakfast in hand. "How do you make a workable system out of being a compassionate people?"

■ ■ ■

About 15 minutes away, past the office park housing AOL Corp., Tanveer Mirza sees things very differently.

The thrift shop run by Mirza's FAITH

Social Services is closed today. But the cramped quarters buzz with activity as workers sort and mend donated ladies' tops that will sell for \$2 to \$6 downstairs, while those in the upstairs office attend to requests for domestic violence counseling and temporary housing.

Mirza emigrated from Pakistan 37 years ago. In 1999 her mosque started this effort to assist refugees from the war in Bosnia who were being resettled in Northern Virginia. Organizers soon realized that, even amid relative wealth, there were many who needed assistance, including many non-Muslims. Last July, she said, more than 800 people waited in line for four to five hours to receive food packages at the group's annual Herndon Without Hunger program, timed to coincide with Ramadan.

"You don't think there are people in need, but there are a lot of them," says

get by, working in fast-food restaurants or others place for wages that can't possibly support families, she says. She notes that just as she's counting on Social Security and Medicare, it's reasonable for others less fortunate to look to the government for help. "I'm willing to pay more taxes if I have to," she says.

But Meade, an interior designer, has her doubts. "I lean toward less government involvement," she says. "I think a lot of things have been fixed. I think with education, people do have a possibility of upward mobility."

Down Lee Highway, in Culpeper, Va., her views are echoed by Rick Sarmiento, a former Army officer, military contractor and retail manager sharing barbecue with son, Ricky, 22.

Sarmiento says his view is shaped by his own experiences and those of his

school principal, so he asked his father for old keys and started walking around with them swinging from his belt - convinced that they were the symbol of someone in charge. Certain he did not want to stay in the citrus groves that employed his father, he left for college, became a teacher and eventually a principal for 24 years.

Terrell acknowledges much has changed since the Jim Crow laws of his youth, but says creating economic opportunity requires doing more. He points out that his church sits just across the street from a public housing project where children of families often don't have the advantages that wealthier families consider basic. At least when he was a boy, those with limited education knew they could find a job in agriculture or a factory.

Today, "it's harder because we've

Democrats in Washington who focus on increasing aid programs. "They need to figure out a way to get people working."

Into the mountains and across the state line to West Virginia, highway signs tout one county after another as "A Certified Business Location." Ten miles off the interstate, down a twisting two-lane road, haircutter Brian Cooper settles into his own red leatherette barber chair in downtown Hinton, having seen his last customer of the day, though its just 3:45 p.m.

Cooper, 33, has a unique perspective on the economy of this faded railroad stop in one of the state's poorest counties, which hugs a steep hillside along the New River. He left town for college, taught school for 10 years before deciding it wasn't the right fit, and decided to retool with a trade. The switch might not have been possible without government assistance. He took out a \$10,000 federal student loan to pay for barber school and while he was out of work, applied for government assistance to help cover food costs. He's self-supporting now, running his own business thanks to a chair offered by a senior barber. But that doesn't mean it's easy.

"Can you imagine paying \$8 for a haircut? That's telling you the kind of economy that's here," he says.

But Cooper, whose shop sits across the street from the local office of the Women, Infants and Children food assistance program, says that while he sees the economic divide widening, he's doubtful about government programs that try to remedy it. Often it seems there's more incentive for the unemployed to work the system, rather than go to work for minimum wage, he says.

"It's harder for the middle class to get ahead," he says. "I just don't feel like the opportunities are out there for people. There are lot of ideals and theories, but I don't think they're put into practice very well. ... The hardest workers are the ones paying for everybody else."

But he acknowledges the role that assistance played in helping him get a leg up.

"I can see it from both sides of the fence," he says.

Ninety miles north in Charleston, upriver from the state Capitol, The Cold Spot serves hot garlic wings in multiples of six, tempered by pitchers of beer. In theory, there's a president out there tonight delivering a State of the Union speech. But inside the bar, the sets are tuned to West Virginia University basketball. Cheers go up when the Mountaineers triumph, 66-64.

With the game over, Brian Snyder, who runs a one-man glass business, takes a moment to consider economic inequities. Increasing assistance to the poor isn't fair because it will raise taxes on everyone else, he says. People should have to earn everything they get. "The gap keeps on growing and it's not right at all," says Snyder, who is 43 and used to employ others in his business until times got tighter. But he's certain most politicians are so disconnected from the lives of ordinary Americans, they aren't capable of fixing it.

"What would I do if I were president?" Snyder says. He looks around the bar to the tables and stools filled with chemical plant workers, a septic truck driver, and an ultrasound technician who moonlighted as a waitress to pay down student loans.

"I'd fire everyone in the House and the Senate," Snyder says, "and put working class people in who actually know what it's like to be out here."



In this Monday, Jan. 27, 2014 photo, Neal Breen, 21, works at the Ashburn Bagel & Sandwich Shop in Ashburn, Va. AP

Americans grapple with income inequality

By ADAM GELLER
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Mirza, the organization's president. "You don't see them."

Mirza says her group emphasizes self-sufficiency, but finds people who are struggling frequently can't get there without a hand. Government plays a critical role. She and other FAITH administrators decry recent cuts in food stamp benefits and long-term unemployment assistance.

She recalls the struggles of families the group has helped: The two girls they assisted with college tuition after their father died. The Iraqi refugee family who relied on temporary housing and pharmacy training before eventually finding work.

The U.S. "is not a place where people can pick gold leaves off of the tree," she says. "In the long run, America is going to be the one which benefits from spending. It's like an investment - in people."

Back on the road, subdivisions and corporate headquarters give way to more open spaces. Inside the wood-paneled dining room at the Stonewall Golf Club, friends Diane Wagner, Shari Viellieu and Francie Meade share a lunch table overlooking greens that curl around Lake Manassas. But they have differing views of the economic landscape.

"I believe the minimum wage should be raised, I can you tell you that," says Wagner, a retired corporate office manager. Too many people are struggling to

parents, medical workers who moved to Chicago from the Philippines and made their own way. Sarmiento knows what retail workers make and some of his son's friends from high school are working two or three such part-time jobs to get by. But Ricky's new job in financial services proves it's possible to do better if you pursue an education, the elder Sarmiento says. He acknowledges, too, that in a country of more than 300 million, there's no universal solution for leveling the economic turf.

"You ask any 10 people, you're going to get 10 different responses," he says.

It's fitting then that another hour on the road leads to Charlottesville, the hometown of Thomas Jefferson, whose sometimes conflicting views on human striving and equality are a reminder that the country has struggled with questions of economic opportunity since its earliest days. A few minutes' drive from Jefferson's Monticello puts you at the door of Mount Zion First African Baptist Church, where Gerald Terrell, the congregation's senior trustee, is getting ready to lock up for the night.

Terrell, 65, was raised in segregated central Florida by a father who only finished third grade and a mother who took night classes so she could graduate from high school the day before her son received his diploma. Terrell says he knew at 13 that he wanted to be a

moved from an industrial society to a technological society. And who has the computer at home? The haves," says Terrell, who volunteers as a mentor to African-American boys. "They don't need a handout. ... They need support in terms of people helping them to achieve their goals. Now, that may be financially. But they need to be put in a position where they can help somebody else."

■ ■ ■

West about 45 miles, at the foot of the Blue Ridge in Staunton, retiree Bob Clatterbaugh glances up from his solitary hand at the bar of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Post 680. The television screen displays a report on Obama's minimum wage proposal; Clatterbaugh is skeptical. Bar manager Hope Fitzgerald and Chuck Gallagher, a beverage distributor, join the conversation.

Fitzgerald, 55, recalls earning \$15 an hour in the mid-1990s when she worked the line at a now-shuttered men's suit factory, a job that came with health insurance. Jobs like that have disappeared, she says, noting that her adult son is working temporary positions and lives at home. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer, she says, but public assistance too often seems to go to those who aren't really trying to get ahead.

"The social issues need to take a back seat," Gallagher says, criticizing

Overdrive

2014 Kia Cadenza: A refined, memorable ride

By BARRY SPYKER
THE MIAMI HERALD

First, a pop quiz: Who can remember the last luxury entry from Kia? No one? Well, can't blame you there. It was the Amanti, an easily forgettable sedan that came out in 2004 and actually looked like a weak imitation of a Mercedes. To make matters worse, its performance was soft and limp, much like its suspension.

The next generation in '07 was an improvement, but by '09 Amanti was gone.

So, thankfully, Kia started over with its newest near-luxury candidate, the 2014 Kia Cadenza. This time, friends, the result is significantly better.

Don't take my word for it. Motor Trend magazine crowned it champ over four worthy rivals in a comparison test, crediting its ride comfort, interior space and fuel economy. As a bonus, it said, the Cadenza has a features list that could rival an \$80K BMW.

Hard to argue with any of that. Cadenza cruises quietly and with great comfort, has a clean fitting and well-designed interior, and comes with the most powerful V-6 engine that Kia as ever produced.

Cadenza is easy on the eyes, too. It has a European-influenced design featuring LED lights surrounding swept-back headlights, nice contours on the long-nosed hood, and a broad lower fascia. Chrome accents highlight the foglights and doors. In the rear, twin oval tailpipes offer a distinctive touch.

The front-wheel-drive Cadenza is powered by an aluminum 3.3-liter direct-injected V-6 engine that has decent guts. It generates 293 horsepower and 255 pound-feet of torque and it works extremely well with its tranny mate, a 6-speed automatic. Shifts are smooth and efficient, though more so on the

NUTS & BOLTS

2014 Kia Cadenza

- Base Price: \$35,900
- As tested: \$41,900 (including premium and technology packages, priced at \$3,000 each)

downside than on acceleration.

Paddle shifters flank the leather/wood steering wheel for those in a sporty mood who want to take back some control of the drive.

On the road I find the Cadenza drives smaller than it looks. It's easily maneuvered around town, handles and corners with ease. And its sport-tuned suspension—MacPherson strut up front and multi-link rear design—gobbles up the imperfections on the road.

On the open road, Cadenza has plenty of oomph to get up the ramps and pass the slower folks. Zero to 60 is rated at 6.3 seconds, which closely matches competitors like the Chevy Impala, Chrysler 300S and Toyota Avalon.

Interstate cruises are sweet:

Serene, quiet and comfortable. And the credit here goes to the interior as well as the outside mechanics.

The roomy cabin has comfortable, nicely contoured seats with great back and leg support. Add to that improved sound-deadening materials and it's easy to see why the ride is so quiet and comfy.

Seats are trimmed in soft napa leather and adjusted with 10-way power. As comfortable as they are, extra tall folks need to try it out for roominess. At 6-2, I was feeling somewhat maxed out with headroom. And legroom in the rear is less accommodating than, say, the Avalon.

Cadenza has an elegant feel inside and, with ambient lighting and wood and chrome accents, it's no wonder why. A classic analog clock sits among the climate controls.

Instrumentation includes a virtual speedometer much like the one in the Mercedes S-Class. And a high-res 8-inch screen presents an advanced navigation system with traffic and services, plus a 550-watt in-

finity 12-speaker audio system. It also features the rear-camera display for backing safely out of the driveway.

And that's not the only tech safety feature here. In fact, Cadenza has most of the high-tech safety stuff you'll find in high-end models like the S-Class and BMW 7-Series: blind-spot monitors, precollision systems, lane-departure warning and adaptive cruise control which slows the car if it gets too close to the vehicle in front. Most of these can be found in the optional Technology package.

Cadenza comes in just one trim level, but it's nicely equipped: navigation with the 8-inch screen, back-up camera, leather trim, push-button start, premium sound, the 10-way power front seats.

Two options packages are available. The Technology has much of the aforementioned safety stuff. A Premium package adds a huge sunroof, power retractable sunshade and adaptive headlights.

So what have we learned from this history quiz? Amanti?

Fugettabout it.

Cadenza? Considering its premium ride and interior re-

finement and comfort, this is an entry-luxury car worthy of including on your shopping list.

MOTORING Q&A

Owner of RAV4 isn't raving about 'check engine' light

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Question: I have a 2007 Toyota RAV4 I bought from a large car dealer. After two months the "Check engine" light came on. The Toyota dealer said it was a defective oxygen sensor, which I had replaced. The next day the same light came on again. What control does a dealer have over the check-engine light? Can they set the codes to defer for a period of time? It seems curious that the light came on two months after driving off the lot.

Answer: Would it have been more "curious" had the check-engine light come on the day after you purchased the vehicle? Without knowing the DTC fault code that has triggered the light this second time, there's no way to know whether the recurrence is related in any way to the original oxygen sensor fault.

Assuming the original DTC pointed to a failed oxygen sensor, the dealer would have replaced it and cleared the fault code from the computer's memory. That means the light coming on a day later was generated by a completely new fault, or the same fault recurring. It's important to remember that there are several fault codes related to oxygen sensor(s) and their performance that do not indicate sensor failure. Replacing an O2 sensor when the fault is a harness/connector/heater or rich/lean air-fuel mixture won't prevent the code from recurring.

To put your suspicions and paranoia to rest, I don't believe there's any way to manipulate an engine management system to "defer" fault codes in order to conceal a problem. And of course, to do so would—like odometer rollback—violate federal law.

Q: I drive a 2003 Chevy Impala with 106,000 miles. Several months ago the "Service traction system" message came on. I took it to the dealer and their diagnostic check found code C1218—"Pump motor circuit open." Their test found that the ABS pump motor has had an internal failure and needs to be replaced, at a cost of over \$2,000. Would it be helpful

to flush the hydraulic lines to clean out any debris that might have caused this failure? Would not replacing the pump have any effect on the ABS braking system?

A: According to my ALL-DATA automotive database, the C1218 code indicates a voltage issue with the pump motor in the BPMV (brake pressure modulator valve), part of the EBCM (electronic brake control module). A special test lamp can test the EBCM's ability to control the BPMV. If the lamp lights up, the pump motor circuit within the EBCM is good.

Until the cause for the ABS and TCS warning lights and "Service traction system" message is identified and corrected, the ABS and TCS are disabled.

Bleeding/flushing the hydraulic system to remove moisture and debris every two years or so is routine maintenance in my book.

Q: I have a 2002 Chevy 2500HD Silverado with 156,000 miles. About six weeks ago the ABS started activating when stopping from a very low speed with little pressure on the brake pedal. It sounds like the left front wheel. No dash warning lights are on before, during or after this happens. It's like the wheel speed sensor thinks one of the front wheels is locking.

A: That's exactly what's happening! Because of an increased air gap between the wheel speed sensor and reluctor ring on the hub due to a buildup of rust and debris, the sensor can't accurately read the rotational speed of the wheel. And since no rotational reading is interpreted as lockup by the system, the ABS engages to bleed off hydraulic pressure to that brake in an attempt to restore rotation.

Paul Brand, author of *How to Repair Your Car*, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number.



GREG JAREM/KIA/MCT

The 2014 Kia Cadenza triumphed in a Motor Trend test against a Toyota Avalon, Chevrolet Impala, Chrysler 300S and Ford Taurus.

First Volkswagen Beetle arrived in a US showroom 65 years ago

By JERRY HIRSCH
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's hard not to spot an import brand car on American roads. That wasn't always the case, Volkswagen reminds us as it commemorated the shipment of the first Beetle to New York City 65 years ago.

Back in January 1949, Volkswagen delivered a VW "Type 1," or Beetle, to Ben Pon Sr., a Dutch businessman and the world's first official Volkswagen importer.

"It made inroads very tentatively selling only two that first year and then seemed to burst like wildfire," said Leslie Ken-

dall, curator of the Petersen Automotive Museum. "It was the right car for the time. It did for a lot of Americans what the Model T did for generations before."

VW shipped thousands more to the United States in the early 1950s as the "Bug" established itself as America's budget car. Sales were so good that Volkswagen established a U.S. sales arm in Englewood Cliffs, N.J., in late 1955.

The Beetle sold well because it was a well-built car at a reasonable price. And people saw it as having some style and poking fun at the larger cars that dominated U.S. roads, Kendall said.

"They were so adaptable,

you could turn them into a dune buggy, you could hop it up, you could paint it wildly," he said. "It was the car of the hippie movement and of the counterculture."

Beetle sales grew into the hundreds of thousands in the 1960s. When the Beetle was at its peak in 1970, VW's U.S. sales topped out at 570,000 vehicles.

VW is struggling to recapture that momentum. Though American drivers have always had a soft spot for the Bug, VW's trouble with reliability and quality problems pushed its cars behind low-cost, durable imports from Toyota, Honda and Nissan

in the 1980s and '90s.

Although it is the third-largest car company in the world, VW has even fallen behind South Korean upstart Hyundai in U.S. sales.

The German automaker sold 408,000 VWs in the United States last year and just 43,000 Beetle hardtops and convertibles. But it remains committed to the model.

"The Beetle has become part of the cultural fabric in America and we are proud that its rich heritage continues to live with fans around the States," said Michael Horn, chief executive of Volkswagen Group of America.

Life & Style

Philip Seymour Hoffman found dead in NYC apartment

NEW YORK (AP)—Philip Seymour Hoffman, who won the Oscar for his portrayal of writer Truman Capote and created a gallery of slackers, charlatans and other characters so vivid that he was regarded as one of the world's finest actors, was found dead in his apartment Sunday with what officials said was a needle in his arm. He was 46.

The actor apparently died of a drug overdose, said two law enforcement officials, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case. Envelopes containing what was believed to be heroin were found with him, they said.

Hoffman—with his doughy, everyman physique, his often-disheveled look and his limp, receding blond hair—was a character actor of such range and lack of vanity that he could seemingly handle roles of any size, on the stage and in movies that played in art houses or multiplexes.

He could play comic or dramatic, loathsome or sympathetic, trembling or diabolical, dissipated or tightly controlled, slovenly or fastidious.

The stage-trained actor's rumpled naturalism brought him four Academy Award nominations—for “Capote,” “The Master,” “Doubt” and “Charlie Wilson's War”—and three Tony nominations for his work on Broadway, including his portrayal of the beaten and weary Willy Loman in “Death of a Salesman.”

Hoffman spoke candidly over the years about his struggles with drug addiction. After 23 years sober, he admitted in interviews last year to falling off the wagon and developing a heroin problem that led to a stint in rehab.

“No words for this. He was too great and we're too shattered,” said Mike Nichols, who directed Hoffman in “Charlie Wilson's War” and “Death of a Salesman.”

The law enforcement officials said Hoffman's body was discovered in a bathroom in his Greenwich Village apartment by his assistant and a friend who made the 911 call.

For much of the day, a police crime-scene van was parked out front, and technicians carrying brown paper bags went in and out. Police kept a growing crowd of onlookers back. A single red daisy had been placed in front of the lobby door.

On Sunday night, a black body bag was carried out on a stretcher, loaded into the back of a medical examiner's van and driven away.

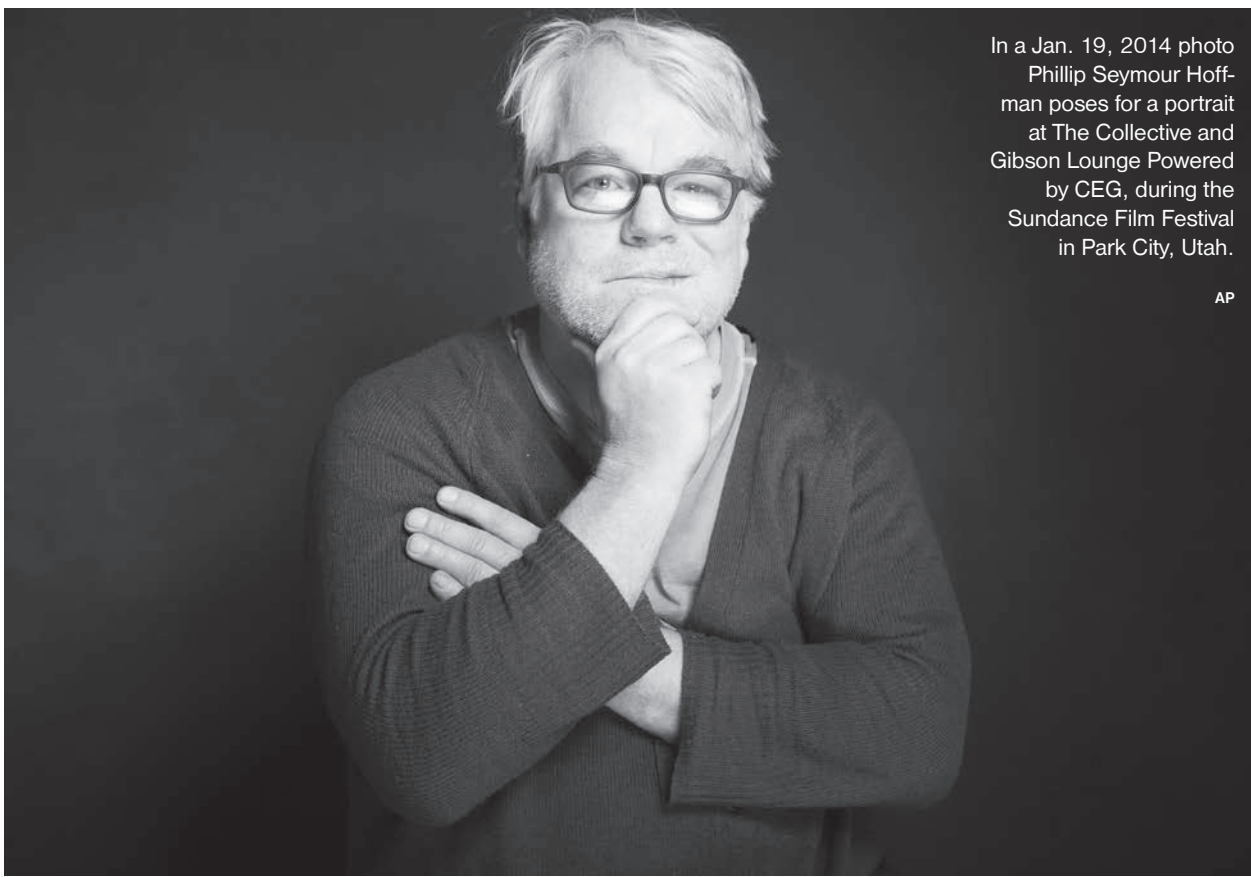
Hoffman's family called the news “tragic and sudden.” Hoffman is survived by his partner of 15 years, Mimi O'Donnell, and their three children.

“We are devastated by the loss of our beloved Phil and appreciate the outpouring of love and support we have received from everyone,” the family said in a statement.

Tributes poured in from Hollywood figures.

“Damn, We Lost Another Great Artist,” Spike Lee, who directed him in “25th Hour,” said on Twitter.

Kevin Costner said in an AP interview: “Philip was a very important actor and really takes his place among



In a Jan. 19, 2014 photo Phillip Seymour Hoffman poses for a portrait at The Collective and Gibson Lounge Powered by CEG, during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

AP

Stars young and old reflect on Hoffman's death

Celebrity colleagues and admirers of Philip Seymour Hoffman shared their reaction Sunday to his death at 46 of an apparent drug overdose.

■ “Words cannot convey the devastating loss we are all feeling right now. Philip was a wonderful person and an exceptional talent, and our hearts are breaking.”—The producers, writer, director, cast and crew of “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay-Part 1 and Part 2” in a statement.

■ “One of the greats of his generation.”—Albert Brooks on Twitter.

■ “Dear Philip, a beautiful beautiful soul. For the most sensitive among us the noise can be too much. Bless your heart.”—Jim Carrey on Twitter.

■ “Life is short. But it's very, very wide. Rest in peace, Phil.”—Actress Martha Plimpton on Twitter.

■ “Love and prayers for Philip Seymour Hoffman's family. Addiction kills, I hope all who need it have access to abstinence based recovery.”—Russell Brand on Twitter.

■ “A tragedy to lose as supremely talented an actor as Philip Seymour Hoffman. An unspeakable loss for film, theatre & all who knew him.”—Kevin Spacey on Twitter.

■ “One of the greatest actors of a generation and a sweet, funny & humble man.”—Ricky Gervais on Twitter.

■ “Philip Seymour Hoffman was a brilliant, talented man. The news this morning is shocking and sad. My

heart goes out to his loved ones.”—Ellen DeGeneres on Twitter.

■ “He was not only the most gifted actor I ever worked with (and judging by the legacy he leaves behind I am certain I share this with most if not all directors who were fortunate enough to work with him), he had also become an incredibly inspiring and supportive friend. I am so terribly sad as I find it impossible to comprehend what happened today and to collect my thoughts properly. I have to think about Mimi and the children and I wish them much strength coping with the loss of this truly great man as a father and partner.”—Director Anton Corbijn in a statement. Hoffman stars in Corbijn's film “A Most Wanted Man,” which premiered earlier this month at the Sundance Film Festival.

■ “I'm so shocked, and so sad hearing of Philip Seymour Hoffman's death. I enjoyed playing with him on the Big Lebowski. He was such a wonderful guy, and so damn talented, a real treasure. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.”—Jeff Bridges on Facebook.

■ “Damn, We Lost Another Great Artist. Phillip Seymour Hoffman.”—Spike Lee on Twitter.

■ “Unbelievable talent. The creative community has lost a true acting genius.”—Channing Tatum on Twitter.

■ “Philip was a very important actor and really takes his place among

the real great actors. It's a shame. Who knows what he would have been able to do? But we're left with the legacy of the work he's done, and it all speaks for itself. New York found him first with theater, and the rest of us have been experiencing his talent from the big screen. So we're sad of his passing.”—Kevin Costner, in a brief interview with The Associated Press before the Super Bowl.

■ “He was the best of the best—seems impossible that he's gone.”—James Franco on Twitter.

■ “Very, very sorry that he passed away. Understand it was through the use of some controlled substances and it's very, very sad. It sends a warning to a lot of people. ... We will miss his work.”—Mitt Romney, in an interview with the AP before the Super Bowl.

■ “I can't believe Philip Seymour Hoffman is dead—I adored him as an actor—what a sad sad story.”—Larry King on Twitter.

■ “The loss is real & personal when the talent is that uncommonly large. Each time he appeared in a scene your brain went to a higher ground.”—Writer and producer James L. Brooks on Twitter.

■ “Oh man-what a waste- so sad. poor family.”—Rocker Gavin Rossdale on Twitter.

■ “No words for this. He was too great and we're too shattered.”—Director Mike Nichols, in a statement.

porting nomination as a CIA officer in “Charlie Wilson's War,” and another such nomination in 2009 for “Doubt,” in which he played a priest who comes under suspicion because of his relationship with a boy.

Many younger moviegoers know him as Plutarch Heavensbee in “The Hunger Games: Catching Fire,” and at the time of his death he was reprising that role in the two-part sequel, “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay,” for which his work was mostly completed.

Lionsgate, which distributes the adaptations of Suzanne Collins' multimillion-selling novels, called his death a tragedy and praised him as a “singular talent.” The last two “Hunger Games” movies are scheduled for release in November 2014 and November 2015.

Just weeks ago, Showtime announced Hoffman would star in “Happyish,” a new comedy series about a middle-aged man's pursuit of happiness.

Born in 1967 in Fairport, N.Y., Hoffman was an athletic boy, but a neck injury suffered while wrestling ended any hopes of a career in sports. He soon became interested in acting, mesmerized at 12 by a local production of Arthur Miller's “All My Sons.”

He studied theater as a teenager with the New York State Summer School of the Arts and the Circle in the Square Theatre. He then majored in drama at New York University.

In his Oscar acceptance speech in 2006 for “Capote,” he thanked his mother for raising him and his three siblings alone, and for taking him to his first play. Hoffman's parents divorced when he was 9.

On Broadway, he took on ambitious parts like Willy Loman in “Death of a Salesman,” Jamie in “Long Day's Journey Into Night” (his parents were played by Brian Dennehy and Vanessa Redgrave) and both leads in “True West.” All three performances were Tony nominated.

His 2012 work in “Death of a Salesman” was praised as “heartbreaking” by AP theater critic Mark Kennedy.

“Hoffman is only 44, but he nevertheless sags in his brokenness like a man closer to retirement age, lugging about his sample cases filled with his self-denial and disillusionment,” Kennedy wrote. “His fraying connection to reality is pronounced in this production, with Hoffman quick to anger and a hard edge emerging from his babbling.”

Last year, he crossed to the other side of the footlights to direct Bob Glaudivini's “A Family for All Occasions” for the Labyrinth Theatre Company, where he formerly served as co-artistic director. Hoffman also directed “Jesus Hopped the A Train” and “Our Lady of 121st Street” for the company and received Drama Desk Award nominations for both productions.

His other notable off-Broadway roles include Iago in Shakespeare's “Othello” in 2009, Konstantin in “The Seagull,” directed by Nichols in 2001, and a Drama Desk-nominated part in Glaudivini's “Jack Goes Boating” in 2007.

Two films starring Hoffman premiered last month at the Sundance Film Festival: the espionage thriller “A Most Wanted Man” and “God's Pocket.”

the real great actors. It's a shame. Who knows what he would have been able to do? But we're left with the legacy of the work he's done and it all speaks for itself.”

Hoffman was as productive as he was acclaimed, often appearing in at least two or three films a year while managing a busy life in the theater.

He was a spoiled prep school student in one of his earliest movies, “Scent of

a Woman,” in 1992. One of his breakthrough roles came as a gay member of a porno film crew in “Boogie Nights,” one of several movies directed by Paul Thomas Anderson that he would eventually appear in.

He played comic, slightly off-kilter characters in movies like “Along Came Polly,” “The Big Lebowski” and “Almost Famous.” And in “Moneyball,” he was Art Howe, the grumpy manager

of the Oakland A's who resisted new thinking about baseball talent.

He was nominated for the 2013 Academy Award for best supporting actor for his role in “The Master” as the charismatic, controlling leader of a religious movement. The film, inspired in part by the life of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, reunited the actor with Anderson.

He also received a 2008 best-sup-

Woody Allen: Farrow claims 'untrue,' 'disgraceful'

NEW YORK (AP)—Woody Allen called Dylan Farrow's allegations of child molestation "untrue and disgraceful," signaling that he would fight renewed claims dating back to Allen's tempestuous relationship with actress Mia Farrow in the early 1990s.

The movie director's publicist Leslee Dart said in an email Sunday that Allen has read Dylan Farrow's open-letter, published online Saturday by The New York Times, claiming she was sexually assaulted when she was 7 by her then adoptive father.

"Mr. Allen has read the article and found it untrue and disgraceful," Dart said.

Allen's lawyer, Elkan Abramowitz, also reacted: "It is tragic that after 20 years a story engineered by a vengeful lover resurfaces after it was fully vetted and rejected by independent authorities. The one to blame for Dylan's distress is neither Dylan nor Woody Allen."

Dylan Farrow claimed that in 1992 at the family's Connecticut home, Allen led her to a "dim, closet-like attic" and "then he sexually assaulted me." Farrow didn't specify Allen's actions, but described other abusive behavior.

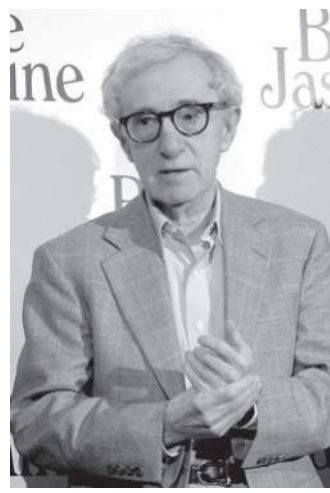
Ronan Farrow, the son of Allen and Mia Farrow (though she has said her ex-husband Frank Sinatra could be the

father), said on Twitter on Sunday: "I love and support my sister and think her words speak for themselves."

Allen was investigated on child molestation claims for the 1992 accusation, but was never charged.

Dylan Farrow's open-letter didn't urge renewed legal action, but a retrial for Allen in the court of public opinion. Farrow, who now lives in Florida, is married, and goes by another name, argued for fans of Allen's movies and actors who star in his films not to "turn a blind eye."

On Sunday, Sony Pictures Classics, which regularly distributes Allen's films including



AP

This Aug. 27, 2013 file photo shows director and actor Woody Allen at the French premiere of "Blue Jasmine," in Paris.

his latest, "Blue Jasmine," urged caution in any rush to judgment.

"This is a very complicated situation and a tragedy for everyone involved," the company said in a statement. "Mr. Allen has never been charged in relationship to any of this, and therefore deserves our presumption of innocence."

Alec Baldwin, who has starred in Allen films, including "Blue Jasmine," was among those Farrow singled out in her letter. Baldwin responded on Twitter to those demanding a comment from him.

"You are mistaken if you think there is a place for me, or any outsider, in this family's issue," said Baldwin.

Dylan Farrow's most detailed account of the 1992 incident returned the spotlight to the original police investigation of Allen. The handling of the investigation was criticized after Litchfield County state attorney Frank S. Maco said in a press conference that he believed there was "probable

cause" to charge Allen but decided against prosecution partly to avoid a traumatic trial for the young girl.

A disciplinary panel found that Maco may have prejudiced the ongoing custody battle between Allen and Mia Farrow by making an accusation without formal charges.

Months before Maco's press conference, a team of child abuse specialists from Yale-New Haven Hospital were brought in to the case and concluded that the child had not been molested.

Maco, who retired in 2003, told the AP on Sunday that the statute of limitations on Dylan Farrow's accusations ran out at least 15 years ago. He said he hopes Farrow was able to watch his news conference and read his statement about his decision not to prosecute Allen.

"I hope she has access to that statement, to know what I did and why I did it," Maco said. "I hope she finds some peace and solace at this time."

Queen Latifah, Renee Fleming nail it at Super Bowl

Anyone tuning in early to the Super Bowl with thumbs at the ready to tweet about musical hijinks in the run up to the game was shut down by Queen Latifah, Renee Fleming and scores of choral singers.

Rapper and singer Queen Latifah and the opera star Fleming proved the perfect choices to sing "America the Beautiful" and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Both women are accomplished performers and handled the pit-fall-ridden material with relative

ease in stirring performances that brought cheers from the crowd.

"Have you ever heard it sung any better," play by play announcer Joe Buck said as fans cheered wildly after Fleming's two-minute rendition of the national anthem.

Her performance included the Armed Forces Chorus, video shots of soldiers in Afghanistan, fireworks, a giant American flag and several shots of Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning scowling, al-

ready in game-face mode.

Fans cheered wildly after the soprano, dressed in a Vera Wang-designed black gown with white sash, hit a long final high note with practiced ease.

Latifah, dressed sedately in a knee-length blue parka and a white turtleneck, shared her performance equally with the New Jersey Youth Chorus, often swirling her voice together with the singers rather than taking a more forceful lead role. The effect was lovely.

She finished her performance with a small fist pump.

After walking off the field, Fleming said she hadn't felt nervous. "I do most of my nervous stuff in advance so when I actually get there I can enjoy it ... and it was certainly true this time," she said. "I feel so thrilled and honored to be out there. I loved every second."

She said she made sure to stay "super-focused," adding, "When it was over it was so exciting!"

"I will enjoy this game more than any game in my life," she said. (AP)

Bruno Mars delivers red hot set at Super Bowl

CHRIS TALBOTT
AP MUSIC WRITER

Anybody worried about how Bruno Mars would do on one of the world's largest stages had obviously never seen the young star perform live. That all changed Sunday night when tens of millions got their first chance to see why he's one of the most exciting live acts of his generation.

Mars, 28, took his high-powered live show to Super Bowl halftime, creating what felt like an intimate show in the arena and supersizing it in what has become a defining moment for those who preceded him on the list of halftime performers in the big game.

The Grammy Award-winning singer eliminated any doubters from the second he appeared on screen in a skinny tie and gold jacket almost as dazzling as his smile. He played a deep-groove drum solo while rolling across the field on a raised, motorized platform, then joined his smoking hot live band for a series of energetically executed hits that were clearly not lip-synched. He then seamlessly integrated the Red Hot Chili Peppers set.

"There were a lot of doubters and my man delivered," Fox commentator Howie Long said after the performance.

You couldn't disagree. There were no flubs, no negative moments that will live on at the water cooler Monday morning. And while you can argue about the entertainment value of watching shirtless Chili Peppers gambol about the stage, the 50-year-old Rock and Roll Hall of Famers managed to match Mars' energy in a brief appearance that was no less memorable.

Bruno Mars, left, and Anthony Kiedis of the Red Hot Chili Peppers perform during the halftime show of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.



LOS ANGELES (AP)—With Super Bowl XLVIII weekend in full swing, "Ride Along" remained strong, steering Universal Pictures into the No. 1 slot in a surprising three-week take-over at the box office.

Topping multiplex sales since setting a January debut record when opening over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend with \$48.6 million, the buddy cop comedy, starring Kevin Hart and Ice Cube, made \$12.3 million, as it nears a \$100 million domestic total, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"I don't think anyone would have seen that coming," Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak, said of "Ride Along."

Despite the looming viewpoint that films with a primarily African-American cast don't do well overseas, the domestic success of "Ride Along" could fuel its popularity internationally. (It is currently only showing domestically.)

"Kevin Hart and Ice Cube are great stars and they are international stars at this point. The movie doing so well here is going to give it that extra push. If the worldwide audience is hearing that 'Ride Along' is the No. 1 movie for the third week, they are going to want to see what the fuss is about."

Disney's "Frozen," now the fourth highest-grossing domestic animated release ever, is in second place with \$9.3 million. The studio rereleased a singalong version of the film, as the movie's soundtrack remains No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart. The film's signature track "Let It Go," sung by Idina Menzel, is among the top 30 on Billboard's Hot 100. "Frozen" singalong shows, featured in 2,057 theaters out of 2,754,

'Ride Along' No. 1 for third week

1. **"Ride Along,"** \$12.3 million.
2. **"Frozen,"** \$9.3 million (\$24 million international).
3. **"That Awkward Moment,"** \$9 million.
4. **"The Nut Job,"** \$7.6 million (\$1.8 million international).
5. **"Lone Survivor,"** \$7.2 million (\$1.3 million international).
6. **"Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit,"** \$5.4 million (\$9.1 million international).
7. **"Labor Day,"** \$5.3 million.
8. **"American Hustle,"** \$4.3 million (\$6 million international).
9. **"The Wolf of Wall Street,"** \$3.6 million (\$26 million international).
10. **"I, Frankenstein,"** \$3.5 million (\$7.5 million international).

added \$2.2 million, as the film crossed the \$360 million mark domestically.

"'Frozen' is a movie that will not quit," says Dergarabedian. "It's been out for 11 weeks and it's still relevant. By adding this sing-along component, they basically assured themselves a No. 2 spot this weekend."

Overall, the estimated box office total for the weekend is \$88.5 million, down slightly from this same Super Bowl weekend last year, which saw an \$88.6 million total.

"This is a weekend where all eyes are on football, so the fact that industry held its own again on this weekend is pretty impressive," Dergarabedian said.

Next weekend's release of Warner Bros. 3-D animation "The Lego Movie," a family comedy, will most likely knock "Ride Along" from No. 1.

JK Rowling says 'Harry Potter' ending may be wrong

LONDON (AP)—Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling is having second thoughts about having ended the series with heroine Hermione Granger paired up romantically with Ron Weasley.

The hugely successful author tells *Wonderland* magazine she chose the red-haired Ron for Hermione for very personal reasons having little to do with literature.

She told the magazine she "wrote the Hermione/Ron relationship as a form of wish fulfillment" and said the couple might eventually need relationship counseling.

The soon-to-be published interview was reported in *The Sunday Times*, which also quoted actress Emma Watson, who played Hermione, expressing doubts about the viability of her character's relationship with Ron.

She told the newspaper that many fans doubt Ron can make Hermione happy over time.

Many fans had hoped Harry and Hermione would become a couple.



British author J.K. Rowling poses for photographers at the Southbank Centre in London, in this file photo dated Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012.

AP

'Frozen' ices out competition at Annie Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Disney's "Frozen" topped the animation honors at the 41st Annie Awards, taking home five trophies, including best animated feature.

The 3-D film, about a magically icy princess and her sister, won

best directing for Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee at Saturday night's Annies, which are presented by the International Animated Film Society. It also conquered music, production design and voice acting categories, the latter for star Josh Gad.

"Frozen," which has earned more than \$864 million globally, was up against "Despicable Me 2," "A Letter to Momo," "Ernest & Celestine," "Monsters University," "The Croods" and "The Wind Rises."

Live-action films also

scored Annies, including "Pacific Rim" for animated effects and "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" for character animation.

For television, Fox's "Futurama" won best general-audience animated show.

Queen Latifah talks Super Bowl, new music

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—You can expect more music from Queen Latifah.

The entertainer, who sang "America the Beautiful" at Sunday's Super Bowl, says she's working on new music, and she'll use her talk show to promote it.

"I'm already working on stuff with that," she said of the new music. "I can kind of interweave that with the talk show. ... It's time to jack another day at the show, give the interviews a break for one day and just perform and rock the crowd. So, I have the best platform to do it."

"The Queen Latifah Show" launched last year. The rapper-singer, whose hits include "U.N.I.T.Y.," last released music in 2009 with "Persona."

She said performing at the opening of the Super Bowl was historic and comes with great responsibility.

"Anybody who takes it as a joke ... to me, I don't know



Queen Latifah sings "America the Beautiful" before the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game between the Seattle Seahawks and the Denver Broncos Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

if they really get it," she said backstage after her performance. "This is moment where for a change we all can ... come

together and (have) a sense of pride, and not really worry about anything else that goes on Monday morning."

'Her,' 'Captain Phillips' win Writers Guild awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Spike Jonze's "Her" and Billy Ray's "Captain Phillips" have earned top screenplay honors from the Writers Guild of America.

Winning the prize for original screenplay on Saturday was "Her," Jonze's futuristic exploration of a man's relationship with his computer, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Scarlett Johansson as the voice of an operating system.

Ray won for adapted screenplay for "Captain Phillips," the Somali pirate saga based on the book "A Captain's Duty: Somali Pirates, Navy SEALs, and Dangerous Days at Sea" by Richard Phillips and Stephan Talty. The film, nominated for a best picture Oscar, stars Tom Hanks and

Barkhad Abdi, a limo driver-turned actor, who earned a supporting actor Oscar nomination.

Sarah Polley won the documentary award for "Stories We Tell," a film about her parents and how the filmmaker was the product of an extramarital affair.

The Writer's Guild Awards are Hollywood's final honors before the Academy Awards on March 2.

"Her" has picked up a number of accolades over the course of awards season, including the Golden Globe for best screenplay, Critics' Choice award for best original screenplay and the AFI award for movie of the year.

Jonze's film is nominated for five Academy Awards, including best original screenplay and best

picture. This guild victory gives the computer love tale an edge in the journey to the Oscars.

Among the guild's TV winners: ■ Drama series: "Breaking Bad," written by Sam Catlin, Vince Gilligan, Peter Gould, Gennifer Hutchison, George Mastras, Thomas Schnauz and Moira Walley-Beckett.

■ Comedy series: "Veep," written by Simon Blackwell, Roger Drew, Sean Gray, Armando Iannucci, Ian Martin, Georgia Pritchett, David Quantick, Tony Roche and Will Smith.

■ New series: "House of Cards," written by Kate Barnow, Rick Cleveland, Sam Forman, Gina Gionfriddo, Keith Huff, Sarah Treem and Beau Willimon.

Wives banished from men's club should start their own

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I live in a 55-plus retirement community. We do many things together, but we also do things independently. One resident decided to form two men's clubs. One meets every week for breakfast, and the other twice a month at night. The members go to each other's homes for the evening meetings.

Abby, the man who started these clubs is chauvinistic. He made a rule that women are not allowed in their own homes when their husbands host a meeting—"no skirts allowed." Therefore, even though the wife prepares everything for her husband's meeting, she's told to slip out of the house before anyone arrives.

My husband agrees that this is ridiculous and is considering quitting the club, but he has formed friendships with some of the men. The guys are bamboozled by the leader and tell their wives that anything said at a meeting is "confidential."

The obvious solution would be to meet at a coffee shop, but the man in charge says the homes provide a more intimate setting. My husband feels bad about it, and I don't want him to quit a group he enjoys. Any suggestions?

GOOD LITTLE VEGAS WIFE

DEAR GOOD LITTLE WIFE: It appears the founder of the clubs has his head stuck firmly in the 1950s. And while we can't change that, I do have some suggestions.

The first is that the wives stop preparing anything and let the "bachelors" do it themselves or order takeout or deli for their meetings. The second is that the "widows" join together for an evening of fun while the men are having their meetings. Of course, nothing that happens during these ladies' evenings of fun should be shared with the husbands—including what they did or what clubs they may have visited.

P.S. Because your husband feels bad about how the women are being treated, perhaps he should consider attending only the breakfast get-togethers and seeing those men in the evening group he has bonded with independently.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend loses her keys, wallet, credit cards or iPad every day. I have suggested ways to avoid losing her keys. For example—always use the same pocket in her purse or put them in a bowl by the door. She doesn't do it. I think it is to spite me.

She has now become resentful that I have become impatient about it. I'm frustrated because this is something that can easily be fixed, and I'm tired of searching for 20 minutes for whatever she has misplaced. What can I do?

BEYOND FRUSTRATED IN L.A.

DEAR BEYOND FRUSTRATED: The first thing you should do is understand that your girlfriend isn't doing this to upset you, and it's possible that she becomes as upset as you do when it happens. While I agree that part of the problem is that she's disorganized, it could also be that her thinking is scattered. When she puts something down, she isn't fully in the moment. Her thoughts may be on something else.

Frankly, there isn't anything you can do about it. If there is a solution to your girlfriend's problem, it's that she should slow down and think about EXACTLY what she's doing when she's doing it, which is sometimes easier said than done.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

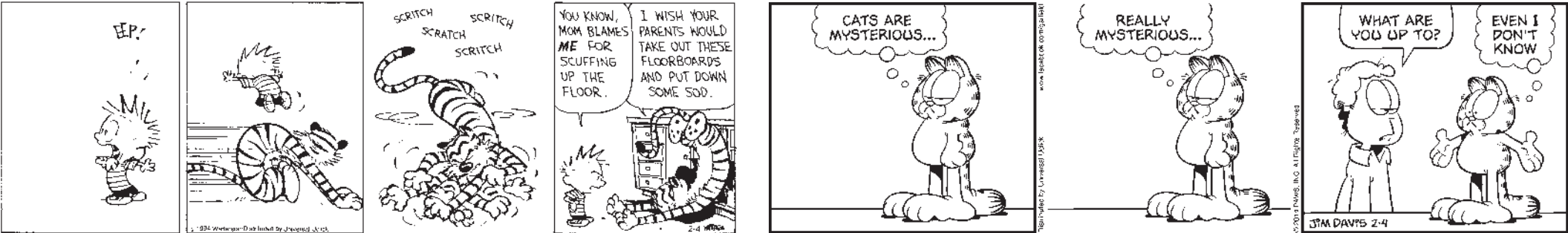
For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

Garfield®

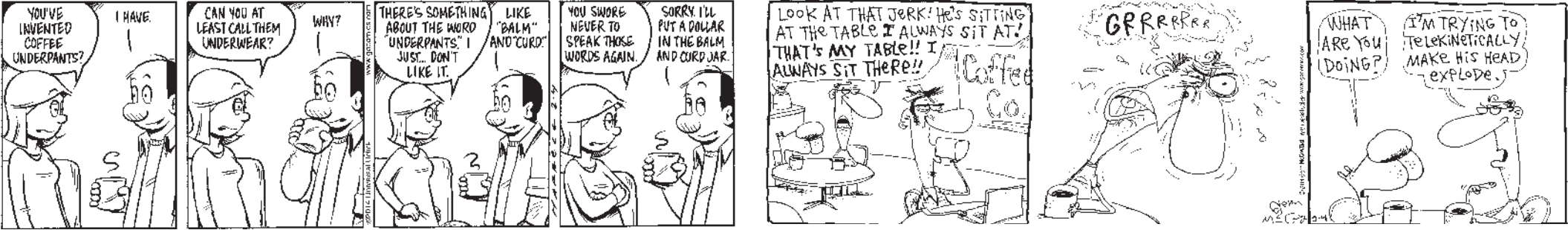
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Hors d'oeuvre
1 Trots
5 Historic time
8 Police alerts, for short
12 Astrigent
13 Floral garland
14 Poet Teasdale
15 Actress Sorvino
16 Annual event
18 Kentucky brew
20 Emcees
21 Tend the lawn
22 In favor of
23 Sepals, collectively
26 Toronto athlete
30 Galena, e.g.
31 Second person
32 CBS logo
33 Stream of high-speed electrons

DOWN 1 Door-frame
25 Allow
26 Young fellow
27 Lustrous black
28 Favorable vote ...
29 ... and what it means
31 Thanks-giving veggie
34 Splendid setups
35 Peel
36 Spot on a domino
37 Tropical rodent
39 Actor John —
40 Competent
41 Gullet
42 Leak slowly
43 Sheet of glass
44 Individuals
45 Branch
46 Billions of years
48 Humor

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-4

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Oscar De La Hoya, 41; Gabrielle Anwar, 44; Clint Black, 52; Alice Cooper, 66.

Happy Birthday: Initiate change. Look for new beginnings. Use your skills wisely to secure and stabilize your future. Bring things to a head and rid yourself of the heavy weight you have carried with you in the past. Do what needs to be done in order to ensure your happiness. Plan your actions and make things happen. Your numbers are 6, 13, 22, 25, 31, 35, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be on edge due to the changes going on around you. Take care of business so you can control whatever situation unfolds. Don't allow a controversial topic to suck you in. Avoid any sort of debate. Physical activity will alleviate stress.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get active. Take part in community events. Share your ideas and offer suggestions. Take time to help a friend, relative or neighbor. Don't let personal criticism cause you to make unnecessary changes. Avoid unpredictable situations. Love and romance are highlighted.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Being talkative is fine, as long as you stick to the truth. Don't mislead someone who is counting on you at work or at home. Getting involved with someone from work or in a situation that is detrimental to your job must be avoided.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't worry too much about what others do or say. Follow your heart and your intuition when it comes to conversations and making

plans. An unexpected change must not upset you. Look for the positive in every situation and you will be on your way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Visiting unfamiliar places or making new acquaintances will initiate an important decision regarding the direction you want to take. A contract will add to your security and make you feel more at ease. Get what you want in writing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your emotions and aggression tucked away in a safe place. The less said, the easier it will be to manipulate a situation to fit your needs. Listen carefully and make strategic plans that are sure to lead to greater opportunities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Disappointment will result if you can't make up your mind and miss something interesting. A social or work-related event will lead to an interesting encounter with someone who may be able to motivate you to make a move.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Line up prospects and push for what you want and you will make headway. Sharing your ideas and concerns with someone special will help you put your plans in perspective. A closer bond will develop with someone who can contribute to your success.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The alterations you make at home and to your lifestyle will take you back in time. Someone from your past will spark your imagination and help you revisit old goals. A change will mark the beginning of a new way to move forward.

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Past experience will help you make better choices now. Don't let emotional issues alter your course of action. Pick and choose whom you want to be around. Protect against takers and users. Don't get angry; get moving.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Important relationships should be nurtured. Getting along with others will allow you to accomplish more than you thought possible. Reach out to someone with knowledge about financial, health or legal matters and you will make better choices.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for more and better ways to use your skills and attributes. Putting together a plan can lead to good fortune if you do so with secrecy. The element of surprise, coupled with a splashy presentation, will show you know what you are doing.

Birthday Baby: You are quick, responsive and exude confidence. You are trendy and entertaining.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

1	6			3			8		
	2		5	4			4	2	
					5		6		
				1					
	7		9						
8	5			6	2		4		
2		1							
	9			8			2	7	

Difficulty Level ★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	5	9	7	2	6	8	4	3
4	3	2	5	9	8	6	7	1
8	6	7	4	1	3	2	9	5
5	7	1	8	4	2	9	3	6
2	9	3	6	7	5	4	1	8
6	8	4	1	3	9	7	5	2
7	4	5	2	6	1	3	8	9
9	2	8	3	5	7	1	6	4
3	1	6	9	8	4	5	2	7

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MEN'S JEWELRY Solution: 7 letters

EPSSPRUBBERINGS
SMATGSELLTMTWAN
PTOROAAYEUSEATE
BIERTNTLNAMUTCC
RFLEHSEICITRJAK
AAGCLCTGMOAHADL
ISNCAANUNOBHEHA
DHARLIMDIDACRC
EIBPLDUDESRELEE
DOCRALIGILIRLTN
ENELNATLOGEZAWO
BTLAMAVRILIGEET
SATOREHFOEATAPO
PINARSTROPSNANW
TDCDMSNIPLEPALT

Adjust, Analog, Band, Bangle, Bracelet, Braided, Carat, Chain, Charm, Chrome, Clasp, Clip, Cobalt, Diamond, Digital, Earring, Elegant, Fashion, Gift, Gold, Lapel Pin, Leather, Matte, Metal, Model, Necklace, Palladium, Pewter, Platinum, Rings, Rope, Rubber, Sell, Silver, Size, Sports, Steel, Sterling, Stone, Strap, Studs, Style, Tack, Tags, Titanium, Two Tone

Yesterday's Answer: Magnums

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 36, 37 or 38 call 1-800-642-6490. Order online at wonderword.universalclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzle sets.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Caregiver - Salary \$5.55/h. 2 yrs. exp. required. Flexible work hours. Call Patricia Worley at 433-0234.

1-Accountant Bookkeeper/Computer Operator - \$5.55 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950.


Wanted: Foreign Workers or Locals. Engineering firm seeks entry level Autocad Technicians and Engineers. Employer willing to train. Please email resume to akennedy@zoneengineering.com.

LOOKING FOR GIRLFRIEND

American Gentleman wants girlfriend, dine, travel, enjoy life with a Nice man, Call 287-5522.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) Store & Laundry worker
Salary: \$5.55/hr. Work schedule: Flexible. Helping customers with drop-off services; folding clothes and cleaning laundry machines; cleaning store and items; stock goods in store. Experience in store or laundry and police clearance are required.
If interested, bring resume to Family Market in Susupe

Xiong's Family, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) **General Manager**
5 years experience. Knowledge in managing more than 20 employees. Familiar with recycling procedures a plus. Chinese speaking preferred.
(2) **Assistant Manager**
3 years experience. Must fulfill job assignment from Managers. Chinese speaking preferred.
(2) **Heavy Equipment Maintenance**
3 years experience in Heavy equipment. Knowledge in repair, diagnose and maintain all heavy equipments
Interested applicants please send resume to P.O. Box 503616, Saipan, MP 96950.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services
Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**
Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**
FEATURES:
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■ Air-conditioning in all rooms
■ FREE WiFi
■ Laundry Area
■ Nighttime Security
■ Ample Parking
■ 24hr water
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Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

LFP Corp. dba Marg's Kitchen
has an opening for
(1) **Baker** — Must have previous experience of at least 2-4 years. Must be willing to work from 3:00 a.m. Must be willing to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays.
Interested applicants please send your resume to: LFP Corp. dba Marg's Kitchen P.O. Box 5527, CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE


WANTED
■ **Cement Laborer** - \$5.55 per hour. Cement handling equipment experience preferred.
■ **Cement Supervisor** - \$7.00 per hour. Must have cement handling equipment experience.
Apply in person at Hanson Micronesia Cement

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
PARTS SALES PERSON (1)
• Minimum of 5 years experience
• Expertise in commercial vehicle and heavy equipment parts
APPLY IN PERSON & BRING RESUME
No phone call please.
MARIANAS EXCHANGE, INC.
Saipan Plaza Building
Middle Road, Gualo Rai

PACIFIC ISLAND CLEANING
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) **General Maintenance**
-must have 7 years experience.
Please send resume to PO Box 502670 Koblerville, Saipan MP, 96950

KINGFISHER GOLF LINKS
is looking for
ONE (1) MANAGER
Japanese language skills to prepare various reports is required.
Applicants should contact
322-1100 or send e-mail to kingfisher@saipan.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Medical Sales Representative
Required Qualifications:
■ U.S. accredited Bachelor's Degree in: Medical Technology, Biomedical Engineering, Chemistry or related science or medical field.
■ Minimum of 2 years experience in the field of Sales of pharmaceuticals, dialysis supplies and equipment, medical supplies and equipment, laboratory reagents and equipment.
■ Excellent verbal and written communication skills and a good command of the English language. Non-native speakers may be requested to present satisfactory TOEFL or IELTS scores.
■ Experienced in maintaining and monitoring inventories for medical supplies and equipment, dialysis supplies and equipment, and pharmaceuticals.
■ Experienced in dealing with medical equipment and supplies, dialysis equipment and supplies, laboratory reagents and equipment.
■ Capable of preparing and presenting sales reports, monthly inventory reports, and market analysis reports using Quickbooks or other similar accounting software.
■ Must be available to work during nights, weekends, and holidays.
■ Must possess a valid CNMI driver's license
Compensation: \$8.00/hr
Interested applicants may email a copy of their resume and police clearance to medpharm@medpharmusa.net or call 288-8880.


is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:
(1) **ACCOUNTANT**
Degree in accounting required; Minimum three (3) years work experience; preferably in hospitality; Strong knowledge of Excel and must be knowledgeable in using Epitome Systems. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **BOILER ENGINEER**
Minimum three (3) years of relevant work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **BUILDING MAINTENANCE**
Minimum three (3) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(3) **CARPENTER**
Minimum five (5) years work experience as a cabinet maker; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **ELECTRICIAN SUPERVISOR**
Responsible for electrical maintenance, repair and communication of systems for the hotel. Five (5) years of relevant work experience as an Electrician, plus five (5) supervisory experience. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.
(2) **FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR**
Three (3) years related work experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience is required. Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.
(2) **FOOD SERVER CAPTAIN**
Minimum 18 months related work experience, one (1) year supervisory experience required; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **FRONT DESK CLERK**
Minimum one (1) year work experience, preferably in hospitality; Previous cashiering experience required; Fluency in Korean, Russian and/or languages is preferred. Must be able to work evenings, graveyard shifts, weekends and holidays.
(3) **GUEST RELATIONS**
Minimum one (1) year hospitality experience; Must have the ability to solve guest concerns and cash handling. Must be able to speak, read, wrote English and one or more of the following languages: Korean, Russian or Japanese. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.
(1) **HVAC TECHNICIAN**
Minimum four (4) years work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(3) **MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**
Five (5) years related experience, plus three (3) years supervisory experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.
(1) **ASSISTANT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER**
Five (5) years of I.T. industry experience and Bachelors degree in IT related field required; Thorough knowledge of all software and hardware is required, this includes all Microsoft Windows desktop and Server Operating Systems, Microsoft application support, SQL 2008 administration skills, Symantec Product experience with Ghost, ACT! And corporate anti-virus software, Access database, Crystal Report XI and report design skills with IIS, ASP and HTML. Skills. Linux skills and Active Directory experience is highly desirable. Experience in the use of electronic mail (mail relays, spam filters and mail integrity) and Internet protocols (e.g., TCP/IP, PPP and IMAP). Sound knowledge of routers, firewalls, network security, network configuration and construction, switches and fiber is required. Applicant should have in depth knowledge of VPN, VPN encryption, PC and server hardware, new PC and server installations, configuration and support of IP Phone Systems, System backups and general network administration. A+, Network +, and/or MCP certification are also highly desirable. Must have excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hr business.
(1) **PASTRY SUPERVISOR**
Minimum five (5) years pastry experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience is required; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **PLUMBER**
Minimum of five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) **POWERHOUSE OPERATOR**
Minimum five (5) years related work experience; Certified Water treatment & Distribution operator preferred; Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(3) **PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT**
Minimum 6 months work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.
(1) **SALES ASSOCIATE**
Minimum five (5) years related work experience in a sales position with previous cashiering experience. Must be computer literate and have excellent communication skills (oral and written) as well as excellent customer service skills. Korean, Japanese or Russian language skills a plus, but not required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.
(1) **SALES & MARKETING COORDINATOR (RUSSIAN MARKET)**
Assists the Russian Market Manager with sales activities and daily operations of establishment: Finalizes booking invoices for Russian reservations to ensure accuracy. Coordinates Russian market collateral, marketing brochures, sales kits and other promotional materials. Assists with trade show and event planning. Mandatory written, reading and speaking fluency in English and Russian. Proficiency in MS Office and Epitome.
(1) **SALES MANAGER (KOREA MARKET)**
Must have at least two (2) years of hospitality/hotel or travel agent sales experience. Must be proficient in speaking, reading and writing the English and Korean languages and be proficient with the use of MS Office. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.
(1) **STEWARD SUPERVISOR**
Two (2) years stewarding experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.
APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. A copy of valid police clearance (less than 6 months old) must be attached to the application. Skills testing may be required for some positions. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Completed applications must be received by 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

Tun Goru Snack Bar
has an opening for
(1) **Salesperson** —Part Time Only
Must be fluent in reading, writing, and speaking English. Must have good mathematical skills. Must have previous exp. of at least 3 yrs. Must be willing to report to work at 5:00 a.m. on weekdays and work flexible hours including weekends and holidays. Salary \$5.55 p/hr.
Interested applicants, please send Resume to: Tun Goru Snack Bar, P.O. Box 5527 Saipan, MP 96950
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

WHATZIT Solution: Coming up roses

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CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
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Find today's solution in classified section

Remembering what Stern did, and how he did it

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



He is not in the Basketball Hall of Fame, he never played in an All-Star game and he is about a foot shorter than most NBA stars.

But try to find an NBA legacy more lasting than David Stern's.

The game is about the players, and nobody understood that better than the commissioner, who is retiring on Saturday after exactly 30 years on the job. He would likely say that the league is where it is because of Bird and Magic, Kobe and Shaq, Michael Jordan and now LeBron James.

Players wouldn't forget to include Stern on the list.

"I think he is the greatest person in NBA history. He made everything happen," said Yao Ming, the former Houston center from China and one of the most important of the many international players who found homes in Stern's NBA.

A league that had been struggling just to find its footing in the U.S.—in the early 1980s weekday games of the NBA Finals were shown on tape-delay—is now one of the most popular in the world, a \$5.5 billion industry with the highest-paid team athletes in sports. Now Stern, 71, hands it over to deputy commissioner Adam Silver, his longtime top aide.

Stern is leaving quietly, refusing most interview requests because he isn't interested in discussing himself. But others have had to plenty to say about what he accomplished, and how.

THE REINVENTION

The man who ended up with the most important job in the NBA was an attorney when he joined the league in 1978, saying he believed he could return to his legal career if the NBA didn't work out.

Columbia Law School couldn't have prepared Stern for everything he would need to know after replacing Lawrence O'Brien and becoming the league's fourth commissioner on Feb. 1, 1984. So Stern simply dedicated himself to learning it.

"He reinvented himself in my mind. He was a young, very highly thought of lawyer when he came into basketball. And he made himself a marketing guy. He just put his mind to it and he really got himself involved in new technology like cable television, which was a kind of a new thing back then. So he was prepared to take the league to another level." — USA Basketball chairman and former Phoenix Suns owner Jerry Colangelo.

THE EXPERT

Asked before this season about the NBA's plans to put nicknames and sleeves on some uniforms, Stern made it clear he wasn't involved, adding that the league's decision was influenced by "so-called branding experts."



In this Nov. 16, 1983, file photo, incoming NBA Commissioner David J. Stern, left, shakes hands with outgoing commissioner Larry O'Brien, right, in New York.

"I used to think I was a branding expert," he said.

Those who worked for Stern would say he was, because he made himself an expert at so many things.

From the way the players dressed—on and off the court—to the length of lines at concession stands, nothing was too minor for Stern's involvement.

"He was the kind of guy, like if you were playing a chess game, he was 10 moves ahead of you all the time, and it didn't matter what the discipline was. If it was PR, event operation, merchandising, legal, one thing after another, the guy was good at it and great at it." —Former NBA executive Terry Lyons.

A DIVERSE LOOK

Stern has said he's proudest of the league's diversity, and that goes from the court all the way up to the league office. There are a dozen black coaches, and women and minorities hold a number of key positions. The final owner Stern welcomed into the league, Sacramento's Vivek Ranadive, is a native of India.

"It happened very quietly, without forcing people into positions. There was no quota, no Rooney Rule, none of those things. There was just appointing people of different race, different color, different gender to senior positions and it happened at the league level and team

level. It seemed to happen naturally, but you have to give him a lot of credit because it happened under his watch." — Miami Heat owner Micky Arison.

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Women's sports leagues usually come and go quickly.

But riding a wave of popularity in the mid-90s, two women's basketball leagues opened for business. The ABL came first, with more overall talent. The WNBA had Stern's backing, playing in NBA arenas, with the support of NBA sponsors and being televised on the NBA's partner networks.

The ABL didn't last long. The WNBA is still around nearly two decades later, with 12 teams. He's said he wishes it were 24—but it might be none without him.

"There wouldn't have been a WNBA at all if it wasn't for David Stern. The WNBA wouldn't still exist if it wasn't for David Stern. That was one of the factors that played into me playing in the WNBA instead of the ABL, was it had the NBA's backing and just as importantly if not more importantly David Stern's backing. If you know him even a little bit, he's not a guy who wants anything to fail. And so him starting this league, he would make sure it wouldn't fail in those early stages." — Rebecca Lobo, an original WNBA player.

CREATING THE CASH

More teams, more jobs, more money. Lots more money.

The NBA added seven teams under Stern, bringing its total to 30, has had its games televised in 215 countries and territories, and its revenues increased by 30 fold. Player salaries have soared to an average of more than \$5 million per season, and the national TV deal is worth \$930 million annually. He has said the growth will continue after he leaves.

"David Stern, who in my opinion has been the best commissioner in any sport, has taken the NBA to a whole, whole other level, even probably higher than his expectations. So that's what Adam's going to have to be competing against. It's going to be interesting, to be honest with you, because I don't see how you can make the NBA more successful than David Stern has, but they're going to try." — Hall of Famer and TV analyst Charles Barkley.

THE GLOBAL GUY

It's probably fitting that Stern's final news conference as commissioner took place in London, since the NBA's international growth is perhaps his greatest achievement.

The NBA has played nearly 150 international games, including the one between Brooklyn and Atlanta that Stern spoke before earlier this month, and the

rosters of its teams are loaded with foreign players. Stern frequently noted that of the 36 players on the medals podium at the 2008 Olympics, 26 played in the NBA.

Even after leaving office, Stern has said he will remain committed to advancing the NBA's opportunities overseas.

"I don't even know who's the second sports commissioner who did so much. Maybe, like (former) Olympic community (president) Juan Antonio Samaranch. But David Stern ... he just globalized it, and right now many countries know NBA product, and know people, know players, know coaches and know the game and (it's) televised all over the world. And you remember when he came in, it was like only 50 states that watched the games." — Russian forward Andrei Kirilenko of the Brooklyn Nets.

THE BRAWL

No player felt the wrath of Stern more strongly than Metta World Peace.

The former Ron Artest was suspended for 72 games after charging into the stands and inciting a brawl between Indiana Pacers players and Detroit Pistons fans on Nov. 19, 2004. It was perhaps the ugliest moment in Stern's tenure.

The next year would come a dress code for players not in uniform and a community service initiative called NBA Cares, all aimed at restoring the players' popularity.

As for World Peace? Nobody would've blamed Stern if he held a grudge. But guess what happened?

"David would sometimes just reach out to me and ask me how am I doing, especially after I got suspended. That was a small bump in the road so to speak. I reached out to him when I found out he was retiring and told him good luck and he had a great career, congratulations." —Knicks forward Metta World Peace.

SHUT IT DOWN

The NBA seemed to be on a roll in 2011, with James reaching the NBA Finals in his first year in Miami to bring a new level of worldwide attention.

But many owners, some hit hard by the financial crisis, were suffering heavy losses and wanted major changes. That meant Stern had a job to do.

He locked out the players until a new collective bargaining agreement was reached, losing games to a labor stoppage for the second time in league history, both under his watch. Players who were guaranteed 57 percent of NBA revenues in the previous deal accepted a 50-50 split that saved owners about \$280 million a year in salary costs, but not until the season was reduced to 66 games.

The league played only 50 in 1999, but that came with an agreement on maximum salaries. It may have been ugly, but

when owners wanted a new model, Stern delivered it.

"I think David's primary concern was the owners and the economic success of the league. It was all about return on investment. David's job was to enforce the will of the owners and not the players. But that is the theme for all commissioners, not just the NBA." — Former NBA Players Association executive director Billy Hunter.

SHOULD THEY STAY OR SHOULD THEY GO?

Some of the toughest situations Stern faced late in his tenure involved franchise movement. He couldn't help Seattle get a deal for a new arena that would've kept the SuperSonics there, one of his great failures, and they moved to Oklahoma City.

But he fought to keep a pair of teams in smaller markets, even when bigger dollars perhaps waited if they moved. The NBA even took ownership of the-then Hornets from George Shinn until it could find a buyer who would keep the team in New Orleans, a situation that became uncomfortable when Stern had to make the heavily criticized decision to kill a trade that would've sent Chris Paul to the Lakers.

And when he could've overseen the NBA's return to Seattle after the owners of the Kings had a deal to sell the team, he instead gave Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson the chance to put together plans for local ownership and a new arena that kept the team in California's capital city.

"He didn't make short-term decisions, he made long-term decisions. Keeping teams in a city creates a huge value proposition for expansion cities. If you invest in the NBA with a new or upgraded arena, the team will stay. If you don't, it won't. That has gotten us better arenas, greater commitment and it was a lesson learned from Seattle." —Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban.

THE FUTURE

Stern hasn't said what he plans to do, beyond that he will keep working. He wouldn't even allow the word "retire" to appear in the October 2012 statement announcing his plans to step down, because that would imply he was going to be inactive.

He'll probably end up visiting China, India, or someplace else he sees potential for even more growth for the NBA.

"Right now I have decidedly refrained from making plans. I think on Feb. 2 I'm still going to be taking all of the junk that I moved out of my office and deciding how much of it to keep, how much of it to dump on Adam's doorstep and how much to throw out, so I've got a fair amount of work to do, and I'm planning to do some skiing before I get to that, and then we'll see." — Stern, at his final news conference.

Kevin Stadler wins Phoenix Open



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP)—The Small-

rus finally hoisted a big PGA Tour trophy.

Kevin Stadler, the 33-year-old son of major champion Craig “The Walrus” Stadler, won the Phoenix Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory.

Stadler won when playing partner Bubba Watson missed a 5-foot par putt on 18.

“It was a little weird way to win a golf tournament,” Stadler said. “I fully expected him to make the putt. I would have rather made mine to win it.”

Stadler closed with a 3-under 68 for a one-stroke victory over Watson and Canadian Graham DeLaet. Watson shot 71, and DeLaet had a 65.

“He beat me,” Watson said. “He’s a great player.”

Stadler won in his 239th tour start, earning a spot in the Masters—a tournament his father won in 1982. The Stadlers are the ninth father-son winners in tour history and will be the first to play in the same Masters.

“It’s going to great for me because it’s really my last one,” said Craig Stadler, a 13-time PGA Tour winner with nine Champions Tour victories. “I kept saying, ‘When he gets in, that’s my last one.’ ... I’m proud of him. It’s awesome.”

Kevin Stadler finished at 16-under 268 at TPC Scottsdale, his home course. Raised in Colorado, he played in Denver Broncos colors, wearing an orange shirt and blue pants and hat.



Kevin Stadler, right, winner of the Phoenix Open golf tournament, shakes hands with Bubba Watson on the 18th green after the final round Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in Scottsdale, Ariz.

What was he thinking when Watson was standing over his par putt on 18?

“How long the playoff was going to take and how long until I can watch the football game?” Stadler said.

After Stadler and Watson each saved par after hitting into the water on the par-5 15th, Stadler tied Watson for the lead with a par on the par-3 16th hole. Watson hit into the front left bunker on the stadium hole and his 6-footer missed to the left.

At the 347-yard 17th, they

each drove the green and two-putted for birdie from 90 feet—Watson holing out from 18 feet and Stadler from 5.

On the par-4 18th, Stadler hit his 110-yard approach to the back right pin to 10 feet. Watson drove into the right rough and hammered his 120-yard second over the green.

Watson bladed his shot from the trampled rough into the bank next to the green and it ran 5 feet past the hole. After Stadler missed his birdie try and tapped in for par, Watson’s par

try slid by the left side.

“I thought I hit a good putt, but obviously I misread that, too,” Watson said.

Stadler birdied the par-4 ninth to take a one-stroke lead over Watson, but fell behind with a double bogey on the par-4 11th. Stadler took a penalty stroke for an unplayable lie after driving into a Buckhorn Cholla and missed a 4-foot bogey try.

“Cactus and short putt and all that was on one hole,” Stadler said. “Eleven has had my number for years. I butcher

that hole every year.”

Stadler likely will move up high enough in the world ranking to get one of the last spots in the 64-man Match Play Championship this month outside Tucson.

Stadler’s previous biggest win was in Australia in the European Tour’s 2006 Johnnie Walker Classic. In that event, he hit a 3-iron to a foot for an eagle on the final hole for a two-stroke victory. He also won the Argentine Open that winter and has four Nationwide Tour wins.

“It’s been a long time since I won anything,” Stadler said. “It’s pretty special.”

Watson is winless since the 2012 Masters.

“I was a challenging day,” Watson said. “Again, it’s the same thing, just waiting on every tee box and waiting on every shot.”

Hunter Mahan and Japan’s Hideki Matsuyama tied for fourth at 14 under. Mahan, the 2010 winner, finished with a 68, and Matsuyama shot 69.

DeLaet bogeyed the 15th after hitting into the water, but rallied with birdies on the final two holes. He also tied for second last week at Torrey Pines.

“I have been playing well for the last few months,” DeLaet said. “I really feel like I worked super hard in the offseason. It’s nice to see it paying off.”

Phil Mickelson closed with a 71 to tie for 42nd at 3 under. Lefty was making his 25th appearance in the event he won in 1996, 2005 and 2013.

“My game is not far off, even though the score says that it is,” Mickelson said. “It was just a fraction off.”

He showed no signs of the back pain that forced him to withdraw at Torrey Pines, and will play next week at Pebble Beach.

“Back feels great,” Mickelson said.

The event drew an estimated 563,008 fans, breaking the seven-day record of 538,356 set in 2008. The tournament drew a golf-record 189,722 on Saturday and 60,232 on Sunday.

Texas hits leader Young retires with Rangers



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Mi-

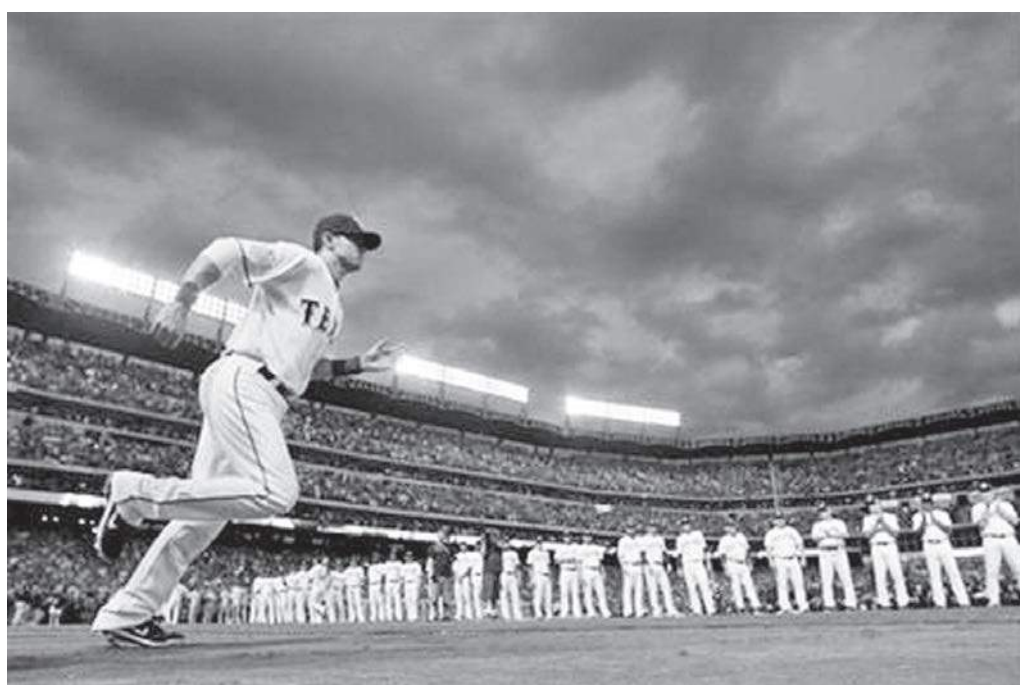
chael Young slipped on a No. 10 Texas Rangers jersey for one last time.

Young formally announced his retirement Friday after returning to Rangers Ballpark, his baseball home for all but the last of his 13 major league seasons. He called his time in Texas the best years of his life.

“I came kind of confident, and stubborn, with a lot to learn,” Young said. “In a lot of ways was still immature, trying to figure out who I was, and what I wanted to do and what I wanted to be about, and I figured it all out here.”

A seven-time All-Star, Young is the Rangers’ career leader with 2,230 hits. The 37-year-old infielder finished as a career .300 hitter in 1,970 games for Texas, Philadelphia and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Texas acquired Young from Toronto in July 2000, along with reliever Darwin Cubillan, for pitcher Esteban Loaiza. Young made his major league debut playing twice the final



In this Oct. 22, 2011, file photo, Texas Rangers’ Michael Young is introduced before Game 3 of baseball’s World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals in Arlington, Texas.

weekend of that season.

Young became a regular in the Rangers lineup after being called up in late May the next season. Texas went from being a last-place team to consecutive World Series in 2010 and 2011. He was traded last winter to

Philadelphia, then to the Dodgers at the end of August before the playoffs.

Young has three young sons, ages 17 months to 8 years old, who were all born in Dallas, where he and his wife still live. Playing away from home for the

first time last season was difficult for Young, even though he loved his time with the Phillies and hometown Dodgers.

“My boys are the driving reason why my playing days are done,” Young said. “You’ve got to be there with them, you

have to be there for every success, every failure. If something doesn’t go right, I want them to see me first.”

Had Young wanted to keep playing, he said the Dodgers made him a tempting offer that would have provided significant playing time.

Young definitely wants to get back in baseball at some capacity in the future, but isn’t in a rush to do so.

Rangers general manager Jon Daniels, who got emotional at one point during his opening remarks, said the team certainly wants to have Young involved in some way.

“The game of baseball is going to miss you, and I certainly hope you don’t stay away from the game,” said Texas manager Ron Washington, describing Young as the ultimate teammate. “I don’t think this game will be able to survive without a Michael Young in it.”

Among the handouts Friday was a listing of all 2,375 of Young’s career hits - it was almost all of 11 triple-columned pages. The first was a single at Baltimore on May 27, 2001, and the last was a double in a home game for the Dodgers against Colorado last Sept. 29.

Originally a second baseman for Texas, Young voluntarily moved to shortstop after Alex Rodriguez was traded before spring training in 2004. Young was an All-Star each of his five seasons at shortstop and won a Gold Glove in 2008.

Young switched to third base in 2009 and earned an All-Star nod at that position. He made that move when the Rangers promoted Elvis Andrus, then 20 years old and without ever playing above the Double-A level, to the big leagues.

When third baseman Adrian Beltre signed with Texas before the 2011 season, Young became a utility player. He started at five different positions, made another All-Star game, led the AL with 213 hits and was part of the team that twice in Game 6 came within a strike of winning the World Series against St. Louis.

“What sticks in my head most is the 2011, what I felt was a championship team that doesn’t have a championship,” he said. “It still eats at me - a lot, actually. I’m over it, but I’m not. I don’t want to spend too much time thinking about it. When I do, I still get a sick feeling in my stomach.”

Rondo scores 19 for Boston in 96-89 win over Magic



BOSTON (AP)—Rajon Rondo had season highs with 19 points and 10 assists and the Boston Celtics snapped a four-game losing streak with a 96-89 win over the Orlando Magic on Sunday.

Jared Sullinger scored seven of his 21 points in the fourth quarter for the Celtics, who let a 12-point

lead slip to one in the final period before pulling away at the end.

Brandon Bass had 19 points and nine rebounds and Avery Bradley scored 17 in his return after missing five games with a sprained ankle.

Jeff Green was the only Boston starter not to score in double figures as the Celtics won for the third time in four games

against the Magic, who have lost four of five.

Arron Affalo had 18 points and Nikola Vucevic finished with 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Magic, who lost their 11th straight road game. Glen Davis had 15 points, Tobias Harris scored 13 and Victor Oladipo had 12 points as all five Orlando starters scored in double figures.

The only game on the NBA schedule Sunday featured two of the league's bottom teams.

Boston entered Sunday winless in six games since Rondo's return last month after missing nearly a year with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. His season highs were 13 points and eight assists before going 9 of 10 from the floor Sun-

day and adding six rebounds.

Orlando, which has just three road wins this season, rallied after making a push in the fourth quarter. The Magic went without a field goal in the fourth quarter until Maurice Harkless' layup cut Boston's lead to 75-68 with 9:01 left to play. E'Twaun Moore and Davis added layups during an 10-2 run that pulled

the Magic within 77-76 on a pair of free throws by Kyle O'Quinn with 6:11 left to play.

It was as close as Orlando would get. Rondo answered with hook shot for the Celtics and Bradley followed with a field goal and two foul shots as Boston started to pull away. The Celtics sealed it with an 8-2 run in the final two minutes.

SEAHAWKS

From Page 28

"The only way we could say we were the best defense was to take down the best offense," linebacker Bobby Wagner said.

Seattle (16-3) was too quick, too physical and just too good for Denver. What was hyped as a classic matchup between an unstoppable offense and a miserly defense turned into a rout.

"We've been relentless all season," quarterback Russell Wilson said. "Having that mentality of having a championship day every day. At the end of the day, you want to play your best football and that is what we did today."

Punctuating Seattle's dominance were a 69-yard interception return touchdown by linebacker Malcolm Smith to make it 22-0, and Percy Harvin's sensational 87-yard kickoff return to open the second half.

"I always imagined myself making great plays," said Smith, the game's MVP. "Never thought about being the MVP."

When the Seahawks, up by 29 points, forced a Denver punt early in the third quarter, the 12th Man—and there were legions of them in MetLife Stadium—began chanting "L-O-B, L-O-B."

As in Legion of Boom, the Seahawks' hard-hitting secondary, part of a young team with an average age of 26 years, 138 days.

"This is an amazing team. Took us four years to get to this point, but they never have taken a step sideways," coach Pete Carroll said. "These guys would not take anything but winning this ballgame."

The loss by the Broncos again raised questions about Manning's ability to win the biggest games. He is 11-12 in the postseason, 1-2 in Super Bowls. After the game, he brushed off questions about his legacy.

"Certainly to finish this way

is very disappointing. It's not an easy pill to swallow," said Manning, who threw for a record 55 touchdowns in 2013, two years after missing an entire season because of neck surgeries. "I don't know if you ever really get over it."

He never looked comfortable against a defense some will begin comparing to the 1985 Bears and 2000 Ravens—other NFL champions who had runaway Super Bowl victories.

Seattle forced four turnovers; Denver had 26 all season.

All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman left with a high ankle sprain in the fourth quarter. He celebrated on crutches.

"I hope we etched our names in the history books," Sherman said.

Wilson, who has an NFL-record 28 wins in his first two pro seasons, including playoffs, had a 23-yard TD pass to Jermaine Kearse late in the third quarter to make it 36-0.

Wilson also hit Doug Baldwin for a 10-yard score in the

final period in what had become one of the most lopsided Super Bowls. For the fifth time in six meetings between the NFL's No. 1 offense and defense, the D dominated.

"It's all about making history," All-Pro safety Earl Thomas said. "This was a dominant performance from top to bottom."

Denver fell to 2-5 in Super Bowls, and by the end many of Manning's passes resembled the "ducks" Sherman said the All-Pro quarterback sometimes threw.

The victory was particularly sweet for Carroll, fired in 1994 by the Jets. He led the Patriots for three seasons and again was canned. After a short stint out of coaching, he took over at Southern California and won two national titles.

But he always felt there was unfinished business in the NFL. Carroll finished that business by lifting the Vince Lombardi Trophy, four years after taking charge in Seattle and eight years after the Seahawks lost in

their only previous Super Bowl to Pittsburgh.

No Super Bowl had been played outdoors in a cold-weather city—not that the Big Apple was anything close to frozen Sunday, when it was 49 degrees at kickoff.

Things went sour for Manning and the Broncos from the very first scrimmage play, and by halftime they were down 22-0—their biggest deficit of the season and the only time they didn't score in a half.

On that first play, Manning stepped up toward the line just as center Manny Ramirez snapped the ball. It flew past his incredulous quarterback into the end zone, where Knowshon Moreno dived on it for a safety.

A mere 12 seconds in, Seattle led 2-0 with the quickest score in Super Bowl history, beating Chicago's Devin Hester's kickoff return to open the 2007 game—against Manning's Colts.

That one ended much better for Manning as Indianapolis

won the championship. This one was a fiasco throughout.

Steven Hauschka made 31- and 33-yard field goals for 8-0. Then the Seahawks began scoring touchdowns.

Manning's third-down pass to Julius Thomas sailed way too high and directly to safety Kam Chancellor, giving the Seahawks the ball at Denver's 37. A third-down pass interference call on Tony Carter brought Seattle to the 1, and Marshawn Lynch scored to make it 15-0.

Then Smith made his second huge play in two weeks. His interception clinched the NFC championship win over San Francisco.

Cliff Avril got to Manning's arm as he was throwing, the ball fluttered directly to Smith, who took off down the left sideline for a 69-yard interception TD.

Manning trudged to the sideline, a look of disgust on his face, Denver's reputation as an unstoppable force erased.

HARVIN

From Page 28

yards, including a 30-yarder that helped set up Seattle's first field goal. His 15-yard end-around jumpstarted the Seahawks' first touchdown drive.

"I knew Percy was going to have a big game tonight," quarterback Russell Wilson said. "You look at him and he's one of the best football players to play in the National Football League for four years."

Oh, and there was also that pretty kickoff return to open the second half, an 87-yarder

on which it appeared he initially struggled to field before taking off and giving Seattle a 29-0 lead 12 seconds into the third quarter.

"We were hyped up, saying we were going to come out and get a stop, 'Let's get a three-and-out,' and then they're like, 'Boom!'" Broncos defensive end Shaun Phillips said. "We got kicked in the chin."

The Seahawks had been practicing the return all week—a "special" one, Harvin said—but hadn't used it in a game all season. His blockers cleared the right side of the field, and Harvin found the

gap and just kept running.

"The guys told me I was going to score," said Harvin, who also had a 5-yard reception in the game. "I wasn't just saying it to say it. Those guys believed that I was going to get in the end zone. When I broke through and I saw the end zone, I really couldn't believe it."

The Seahawks, though, were hardly as stunned as the Broncos.

"Don't kick it to him, come on," wide receiver Golden Tate said. "He is a special guy."

Seattle wanted to bring Harvin in so badly, it dealt three draft picks, including a first-

rounder, to Minnesota in the offseason and then signed him to a six-year, \$67 million contract. The Seahawks envisioned him as a difference-maker on offense and special teams.

But he missed the first 10 games after hip surgery, and played sparingly when he returned because of complications. Harvin came back for the playoffs, but hit his head on the turf in Seattle's win over New Orleans in the divisional round and suffered a concussion.

He then sat out the NFC title game victory over San Francisco—a mere frustrated spectator, unable to help his team.

"Being injured all season," Harvin said, "it took a toll on me."

His teammates knew what it was doing to Harvin, and they urged him to take care of himself and get healthy. Because, they told him, they would need him to help finally deliver Seattle its first championship.

Harvin had just one catch for 17 yards in the regular season, and had three receptions for 21 yards and a 9-yard rush against the Saints before getting hurt.

"A lot of people got down on him because he didn't play throughout the season, but I knew the type of person Percy was," wide receiver Jermaine

Kearse said. "He was going to fight back. He was going to get healthy and when he was finally healthy, he came out and showed out."

During the week leading up to the Super Bowl, Phillips said he and the rest of the Broncos planned to study film of Harvin from his Vikings days. And, to the Broncos, Harvin looked like that player again.

"He's an explosive guy and that definitely played a major part," Broncos cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie said. "They got the ball in his hands and let him do a few things, and it worked for them."

BEST

From Page 28

it really numbs the pain a lot. It was really hurting and I was sad I let my teammates down I wasn't able to finish the game," Sherman said. "I knew they would step up for me and do that. This feeling is just unbelievable. It's a dream come true."

Led by its All-Pro cornerback, Seattle's "Legion of Boom" secondary and the nastiest defense in the NFL proved the strength of the Seahawks was greater than the record-setting arm of Peyton Manning in their stunning 43-8 rout on Sunday night.

Sherman's night was, well, kind of boring. After two

weeks of so much attention landing at Sherman's feet for what happened at the end of the NFC championship game, his Super Bowl night was rather uneventful.

That was by design. Manning wasn't about to mess with arguably the best cornerback in the NFL.

Manning carefully tried to avoid throwing at Sherman, leaving the rest of his mates in the secondary to make the plays. Safety Kam Chancellor flattened Demaryius Thomas on Denver's third offensive play, a tone setting moment that epitomized what Seattle was hoping to accomplish against the Broncos talented receivers.

"I definitely think it did. It just sends a message that any-

time you come across the middle you have a chance of getting wrecked," Chancellor said. "And that's the way we play on defense. We play physical. We want to instill our will. We want to be a grimy defense."

Chancellor later had an interception on an overthrown pass, cornerback Byron Maxwell forced a fumble in the third quarter and safety Earl Thomas cleaned up everything leftover—which wasn't much.

The result was one of the most lopsided Super Bowl's ever against the most prolific offense the league had even seen.

"You can never expect it but I wasn't really shocked. I expected us to stand up," Sherman said. "I didn't expect us to give up a whole lot of points. It's not

our standard to give up a whole lot of points. We haven't done it all year. We knew we would play sound football."

That secondary got plenty of help along with way from a defensive line that got enough pressure to make Manning uncomfortable. They only sacked Manning once, but disrupted the timing of the Broncos pass game regularly. Manning either made an extra pump, or had to take an extra slide step because of the pressure coming at him and the coverage in the secondary.

And when the passes were thrown, there was almost always someone there to make the tackle. As was their approach all season, Seattle was not going get beaten by the big

play. Everything was thrown underneath.

Denver's longest pass play was 23 yards.

"Tackling was going to be so important in this game," Seattle defensive coordinator Dan Quinn said. "It was something we stress all the time, but for us when we play our zone coverages how fast can we close and really eliminate the yards after contact."

Sherman was targeted only once in the first half when Manning threw a pass away that floated out of bounds. It came during the only drive of the half where Denver threatened to score, only to get turned away on fourth down.

Sherman was targeted more in the second half and twice

had to be tended to by trainers for injuries. The last time finally sent him to the locker room and left Sherman on crutches and in a boot for the celebration.

But Sherman insisted he would be healthy enough for the championship parade coming on Wednesday after the Seahawks gave a performance that showed their success goes beyond their spotlighted secondary.

"It's a lot of guys a lot of people haven't heard of and probably should be in the Pro Bowl and All-Pros and things like that," Sherman said. "I think they learned how complete of a team we are, how complete our defense is."

"It's not just the 'Legion of Boom' back there with four guys who play good football."

Saipan Super Bowl Monday tales



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Celia Mercado eggs on the crowd before joining the Super Bowl XLVIII halftime break contest at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club yesterday.



A Denver Broncos' fan makes a throw during a halftime break contest.

Two Seattle Seahawks fans exchange hi-fives after their team scored a touchdown, while their friend is glued to the TV screen.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Seattle Seahawks fans celebrate after getting another touchdown in the fourth quarter.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Spectators pose for a photo during a break in Super Bowl XLVIII at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club yesterday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan football fans watched the Seattle Seahawks' fierce defense dismantle Peyton Manning and his Denver Broncos' touted offense in yesterday's Super Bowl XLVIII at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Supporters of both teams trooped to the various bars and restaurants on Saipan with the Seahawks fans doing most of the celebration, as Seattle dominated Denver from start to finish en route to the most lopsided victory, 43-8, in Super Bowl history in 21 years.

"The Seahawks were the underdogs, but they also had the best defense in the league and

that will win them this year's Super Bowl," said Francis Mendiola in a brief interview with *Saipan Tribune* at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club during the halftime break of the match with Seattle enjoying a 22-0 lead.

Mendiola and the more than 100 people packed at Charley's Cabaret watched Super Bowl as part of their annual tradition and devotion to American football.

"I've been watching Super Bowl since seventh grade and also played the sport before. Every year I watch Super Bowl with my friends. It's exciting to watch the game with your friends and with your team winning," Mendiola added.

Margaret Muna was without

company when she watched yesterday's game at Charley's Cabaret, as her family is now based in Seattle.

"But, I feel like I am with them because I know they are watching the game, too, back in Seattle. I grew up in a family that loves American football so whenever possible and wherever I am, I find time to watch the Super Bowl," Muna said.

Another proud Seattle supporter was Celia Mercado, who was in a Seahawks jersey and stood up from her seat and raised her hands every time her team scored or made good plays. "I am from Seattle and have

been supporting the Super Bowl since the late 1970s. Seeing my team play great and winning

makes me feel like I am home with them. The Seahawks have shown a lot of heart this season and they made the Emerald City proud," said Mercado, who battled a Broncos fan wearing Manning's jersey in a "quarterback throw" contest.

Besides holding fun games in between breaks of the Super Bowl, cash and in-kind prizes were also handed out to spectators. PIC raffled away Pacific Trading, Co. products and phones, while cash prizes to spectators who guessed right

the last digit in the scores (in each quarter) of the opposing teams. At Naked Fish, which lured about 100 spectators, MARPAC also handed out NFL and Super Bowl merchandise and other prizes, including raffle tickets to its \$10,000 giveaway promo. MARPAC's Ray Alvarez said similar in-kind prizes were also given away at Wild Bill's, 360 Revolving Restaurant, and VFW.

Winning raffle prizes like these and enjoying food and football encouraged spectators to go to Saipan's watering holes to watch Super Bowl.

"You get to enjoy the game and the atmosphere and if you're lucky, you will also go home with awesome prizes,"

said Larry Lee, a Seahawks fan.

"I love to cheer for the underdogs and it couldn't get any better as they are also winning," he added.

Lori Serna rooted for the favored Broncos and was a bit disappointed in the Denver's performance, but still enjoyed the game.

"I was expecting the opposite to happen, for the Broncos to lead the Seahawks because Denver has been consistent with their games this season, while Seattle almost did not make it to the Super Bowl. However, it's still fun to be here and watched the game and the people celebrate and cheer for both teams. It's a great way to start a week," Serna said.



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas High School swept the first round of the 2013-2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Association Boys Basketball League after downing Kagman High School, 64-51, in their varsity game last Friday at the MHS Gymnasium.

It was a come-from-behind win for the Dolphins, who trailed by as much as 11 points, 13-24, in the first quarter. The division leader improved its flawless record to 4-0, while Kagman dropped to a 2-2 record, losing its last two games in the first round of the double-round robin competition.

The Dolphins, who ended the opening canto facing a 9-point deficit, 15-24, mounted a comeback early in the second period, launching an 8-0 run to

Dolphins rally past Ayuyus in MISO caging

move within 1 with only four minutes gone by in that quarter, 23-24. J.P. Iglecias scored 4 points, while Mike Arciaga and Dixon Kwon added 2 markers each in the rally, which Kagman's Mel Sakisat ended with a baseline jumper to give the Ayuyus more breathing room. Kagman went on to cling to a 31-29 halftime lead, as it nailed only three field goals in the second frame off Jonathan Santos' triple and Jason Lampkin's reverse layup, while MHS scored 6 more points in the closing minutes.

The match remained close in the first seven minutes of the third period before the backcourt duo of Kobe Mendoza and Irvin Malonzo gave MHS leverage in last three minutes to put the Dol-

phins on top, 46-39. Mendoza had 6 points in the third period, while Malonzo converted two breakaway layups.

The Dolphins managed to steal the lead in the third canto, as they were quick to rotate back on defense to neutralize Kagman's motion offense. The division leader also anticipated the Ayuyus' passing lanes, forcing several turnovers, which the Dolphins translated to fastbreak baskets.

With MHS' defense in sync, Kagman drilled only two field goals in the third and only Lampkin scored more than 2 points for the Ayuyus with four of them coming from the foul line.

Kagman never recovered from thereon, as Jonathan

Santos and its two other gunners—Jesse Santos and Sakisat—struggled majority of the fourth before picking up garbage points, while Lampkin gassed out. Jonathan Santos, who scored 11 points in the first period, made only two field goals in the last three quarters with his second one coming in the closing minute of the match. Jesse Santos had a quiet 8 points, posting only 4 in the last three periods, while Sakisat bagged only 4 markers.

MHS had a balance offense with Mendoza leading the way with his 12 points. Mike Espinosa and Prince Factor chipped in 10 each and three others contributed at least 6 apiece.

Meanwhile, MHS also won

in the junior varsity game against Kagman, 37-31, to keep its clean slate (3-0) and move one win away from sweeping the first round. Kagman fell to a 1-2 record.

The Dolphins scored in double figures in the second and third quarters to take control of the match and withstood the Ayuyus rally in the second half en route to the 6-point win.

After the MHS-Kagman tussle in the first game ended in a deadlock in the first half, 6-6, the Dolphins threatened to pull away in the second, firing 15 points against the Ayuyus' 4. Down by 11, 10-21, Kagman picked up its scoring in the third, 14-11, to stay in the game, 24-32.

However, the Ayuyus revert-

ed to its old sluggish offense in the final canto, nailing only 7 markers, allowing MHS to keep the win despite a similar dismal 5-point output in the playoff period.

Junior Varsity

MHS 37 — Pamintuan 15, Borja 14, Cristobal 3, Manalili 3, Vivero 2.

KHS 31 — Muna 9, Tenorio 6, Jones 5, Retan 4, Castro 3, Aaron 2, Torres 2.

Scoring by quarters: 6-6, 19-10, 32-24, 37-31.

Varsity

MHS 64 — Mendoza 12, Factor 10, Espinosa 10, Malonzo 8, Kwon 6, Arciaga 6, Yap 3, Capuyon 2, Iglecias 2, Ano 2.

KHS 51 — Lampkin 23, Jo. Santos 16, J. Santos 8, Sakisat 4.

Scoring by quarters: 15-24, 29-31, 46-39, 64-51.





Remembering
what Stern did,
and how he did it

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wins Phoenix
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Seahawks beat Broncos 43-8 in Super Bowl

By BARRY WILNER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Waiting to get their hands on the Lombardi Trophy, the Seahawks were surrounded by security guards in orange jackets. It was the first time anyone in that color stopped them all night.



The Seahawks stayed true to their mantra to make each day a championship day. They made Super Bowl Sunday the best day of all with one of the greatest performances in an NFL title game—sparked by a defense that ranks among the best ever.

The Seahawks won their first Super Bowl crown by punishing Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos 43-8. That masterful defense, the NFL's stingiest, never let the five-time MVP get going, disarming the highest-scoring offense in league history.

See **SEAHAWKS** on **Page 26**



AP

Seattle Seahawks' Kam Chancellor (31) celebrates with teammate Earl Thomas, right, after intercepting a pass during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game against the Denver Broncos Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Best defense in NFL carries Seattle to title

By TIM BOOTH
AP SPORTS WRITER

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Richard Sherman felt the need to apologize.

While the rest of his teammates bounced around in cel-

ebration, Sherman hobbled on a pair of crutches, the pain in his right ankle keeping him from enjoying the rain storm of confetti.

"This championship hat, winning, achieving a dream

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AP

Seattle Seahawks owner Paul Allen, left, raises the Vince Lombardi Trophy as he celebrates with head coach Pete Carroll, second from right, and general manager John Schneider, right, after the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game against the Denver Broncos Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Harvin makes big impact for Seahawks in Super Bowl

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.
AP SPORTS WRITER

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Percy Harvin juked a few defenders, blazed down the sideline and made it to the end zone.

That's the dazzling playmaker the Seattle Seahawks had been waiting all season to see.

That's the guy Harvin and his teammates knew he still was.

The dynamic wide receiver made his biggest impact for Seattle in the biggest game, helping spark the Seahawks in a 43-8 victory over the Denver Broncos in the Super Bowl on Sunday night.

"It's just a big horse off my back," a smiling Harvin said. "I finally was able to give my team something for four quarters."

It certainly had been a while



for Harvin, who missed most of his first season with Seattle dealing with a hip injury, and then suffered a concussion in the playoffs. But Harvin made it—finally—through his first full game, and made up for some lost time.

"It means everything to me," he said. "This team, the way they stood behind me, the way they backed me up all year, it means a lot to me."

Harvin had two runs for 45
See **HARVIN** on **Page 26**

Seattle Seahawks' Percy Harvin, left, runs past Denver Broncos' Matt Prater en route to a touchdown during the second half of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

AP